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OPINION METER

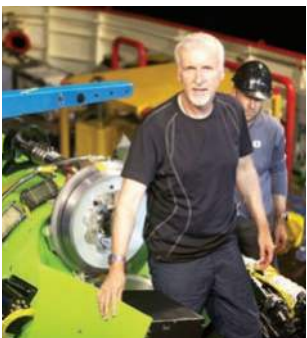
This week's poll:

Do you support putting Article 12 on the ballot this year?

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INSIDE

LOCAL



James Cameron plans a TV special and a theatrical release on his Marianas Trench missions.

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OFF THE WALL



At birth, Beyonce weighed just 1 ounce and could fit into a teaspoon.

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LIFE & STYLE



A controversial restoration of the last great work by Leonardo da Vinci goes before the public.

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DPS assures detectives still working on Romero slay. **PAGE 5**
Fund gets \$256,000 in GHLI allotments from CHC. **PAGE 6**

Fitial cuts Rota budget for 2013

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitia's budget plan for fiscal year 2013 includes a cut of some \$180,000 from Rota's budget while maintaining or slightly increasing the budgets of Saipan, Tinian, and the Northern Islands.

» **Other islands' funding retained**
» **Governor poised to submit \$102M budget today**

The governor told the four mayors during a closed-door governor's council

meeting yesterday afternoon on Capital Hill that he will be submitting his \$102 million budget for fiscal year 2013 to the Legislature today, two days ahead of the April 1 deadline. This is the same amount as fiscal year 2012's budget.

Fitia's budget cut for Rota comes

See FITIAL on **Page 4**

'Mafnas unlawfully seized about 8-10 driver's licenses'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER



Mafnas

Ramon C. Mafnas, as Department of Public Safety commissioner, unlawfully seized some eight to 10 driver's licenses from alien workers across a period of several months, according to Police Capt. Pete Leon Guerrero.

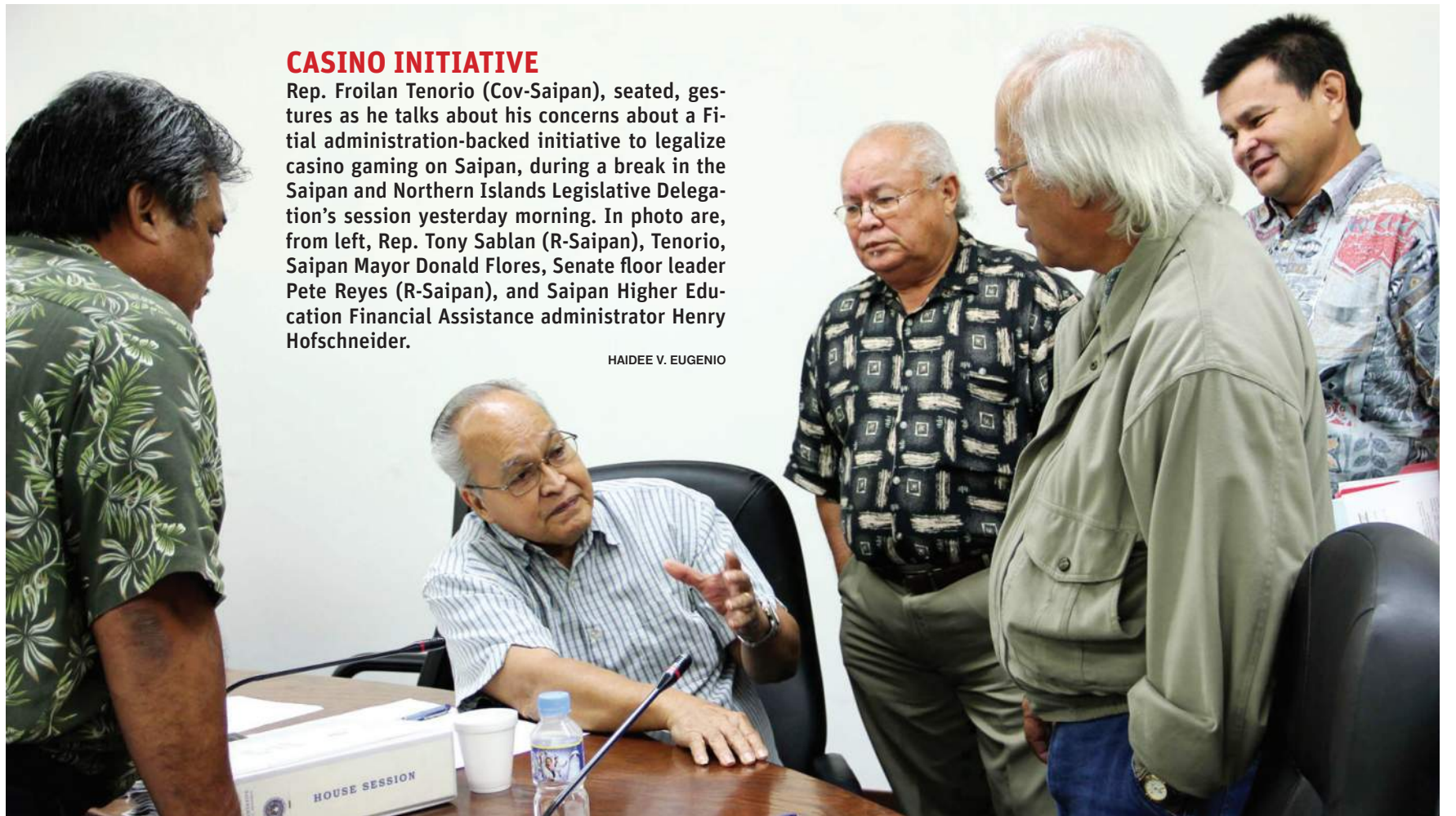
» **Veteran lawyer says motorists have civil rights**

See MAFNAS on **Page 4**

CASINO INITIATIVE

Rep. Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), seated, gestures as he talks about his concerns about a Fitia administration-backed initiative to legalize casino gaming on Saipan, during a break in the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's session yesterday morning. In photo are, from left, Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan), Tenorio, Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan), and Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance administrator Henry Hofschneider.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

After three decades of teaching, long-time educator and constitutionalist Sam McPhetres has called it quits and will be retiring from the Northern Marianas College.

McPhetres told



McPhetres

AFTER 30 YEARS AT NMC

Sam McPhetres retires

Saipan Tribune yesterday that this semester will be his last at the college after 30 years. NMC has already been notified of his decision.

Now 74, the well-respected educator said that he will stick around to continue doing the things he like. Among them

are compiling his collections, digitizing his files, providing consultancy services, possibly part-time teaching, and writing more books.

McPhetres was among the pioneer at NMC since its inception in 1981. He was the first to teach a Marianas History

class to college students and has taught courses in U.S. history, American government, political science, world history, and current issues.

He describes all these years of service to the college and students as a "wonderful experience."

McPhetres' Current Issues classes were particularly noted for their surveys and studies, all related to issues in the Commonwealth. Notable among these were about CNMI tourism, Saipan's

See MCPHETRES on **Page 4**

Local

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Scholarship grants hinge on availability of funds

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The CNMI Scholarship Office said the grant awards for this term will be contingent on the availability of and actual disbursement of funds.

Administrator Jackie Che said her office has already identified 207 off-island students and 301 on-island students who are eligible for spring 2012 financial assistance.

"Our review of all applicants is complete. Check requests have been forwarded to the Finance Department for processing," Che said yesterday.

She added, though, that her office included a disclaimer on each approval that says the release of the award will depend on the availability of funds.

"At this point, we cannot make any commitments to our students until there is enough funding to release these awards," she said.

Besides the check request for spring 2012 scholars, Che said that more checks are still pending for disbursement. She said \$218,400 remains pending for 314 off-island scholars from fall 2011 semester. These are checks for educational assistance program scholars.

"While the scholarship programs are well-intentioned, the reality is that the government simply does not have the mon-

ey. When we're dealing with the kind of slump we have been dealing with, every program and agency can't be protected," she said.

Early this month, among the ways being eyed for the government to help save the troubled Retirement Fund is to stop funding the scholarship program but Che said the Executive Branch has not formally broached the idea.

"We are sensitive to the fallout that could affect students and families with no other way to finance a college education if this proposed suspension was to take effect without notice. We don't want to short-change our students pursuing higher education, but the reality is health care, power to the islands, and Retirement Fund crisis are critical priorities of the government," she said.

"The time has come to make tough choices and the scholarships are, of course, a natural target for suspension. They don't have to, though, if we streamline our operations and if cuts are made across the board to reverse the rapid downward spiral of debt the Commonwealth has amassed," she added.

Recipients of the NMI Scholarship Office awards suffered a 42-percent cut in their financial assistance starting last fall semester 2011. The policy change was due to the high number of applications received by the program.

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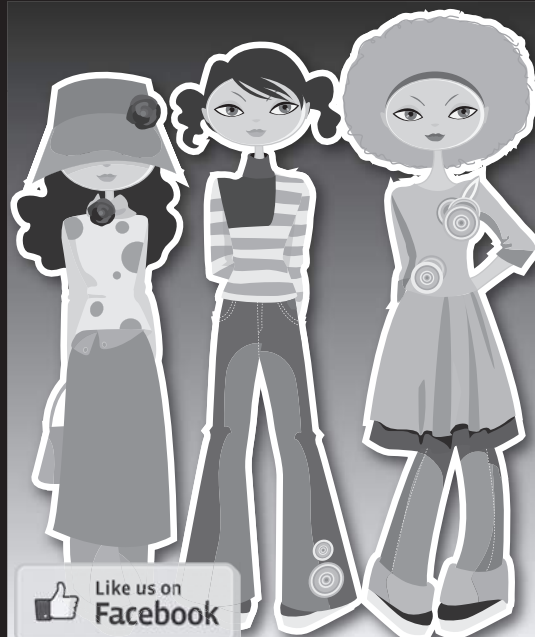
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Saipan lawmakers wrestle over \$3.2M in poker money

» Delegation confirms Blanco's reappointment to Zoning Board

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Saipan lawmakers wrestled for hours yesterday over how to spend \$3.2 million in poker license fees that's not even in the bag yet. Most of the amount was eventually set aside for scholarship; the rest ended up being divvied up among a fishing derby, an economic development summit, a leadership memorial, and to help fund a high school band, among other things.

Rep. Ray Yumul's (R-Saipan) House Local Bill 17-68 was amended three times as members of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation debated where projected poker license fee collections for fiscal year 2012 should go.

The bill passed by a vote of 19-0. It now goes to the governor for action.

The three adopted amendments were offered by Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan), Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan) and Sen. Ralph Torres

(R-Saipan). Rep. Janet Maratita's amended was defeated by a single vote.

Of the \$3,228,050, the bulk or \$3 million will go toward the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance.

The remaining \$228,000, however, was the one that lawmakers really fought over.

Of this amount, \$100,000 will go toward SHEFA operations. Maratita offered to slash this in half and give it to the actual SHEFA grant for students, but it was defeated.

SHEFA administrator Henry Hofschneider said it's the actual cash flow that matters—whether the program operations funding is \$50,000 or \$100,000,

although he said SHEFA needs more than one staff so it would be better to keep the operational budget at \$100,000.

Saipan lawmakers gave \$25,000 for the Saipan Little League, \$10,000 for the 31st Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival, \$2,000 for the Fire Division, and \$3,300 for the completion of the Karidat Manhoben Center renovation. They also gave \$2,700 for the Leadership Memorial Courtyard, also known as the Kios-Ku Project.

The delegation also gave \$28,000 to the Saipan Mayor's Office for the repair and maintenance of heavy equipment and \$5,000 for the Parole Community Outreach Program.

■ \$12,000 will go to the Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Band, and \$14,000 to the Mount Carmel School to send its Mock Trial Team to the final competition in New Mexico.

■ \$5,000 will go to the Saipan Fishing Derby, and \$16,000 for the Little League District Tournament.

■ \$5,000 will be for the

Northern Islands Development Summit, which was strongly proposed by Ogumoro. This is in addition to \$5,000 that a local law has already appropriated for the summit.

"We're broke. We should emphasize on areas where we can generate money," she said, referring to the need to develop the Northern Islands' economic po-

tentials and possible resettlement.

Confirmation

By a vote of 20-0, the delegation confirmed the re-appointment of Diego Blanco to serve another term on the Zoning Board.

"I thank the governor for his reappointment and the SNILD for unanimously confirming me. As always, I look forward to working with SNILD to improve our island and protect our community," Blanco told *Saipan Tribune*.

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Messages 51684 Edit

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John: LMAO, I'm not kidding! Hurry, ESPN is on! Give me a name so I can get this over with.

Me: Woosah, a man in control! ☺ Call Pacifica Insurance. I've been insured with them for over 5 years, and I've been very satisfied.

John: Why them? I hope they're legitimate.

Me: With 38 years of doing business, I think that already says something. But, for real, drop by their office at Joeten Susupe or check out their website at pacificains.com. If you're lazy to do both dial 2346267.

John: Alright, baby, will do. Rest assured, right? LOL.

Me: You can definitely rest assured with them...and me, of course. LOL. Can't wait for our date tonight!

John: Love to chat, but ESPN is calling!

Me: Ugh! ESPN, again?! TTYL.

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'People with disabilities can do a wide range of jobs'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An "open mind" is needed to overcome stereotypes of people with disabilities as they can perform a wide range of jobs "as well as everyone else," according to David T. Hutt.

Hutt, senior staff attorney at the National Disability Rights Network or NDRN, facilitated the CNMI Vocational Rehabilitation Training for the staff of the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

The training, held at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret on March 28 and 29, focused on the vocational rehabilitation system and process consistent with the federal law and policies. The two-day training also covered other issues relating to vocational rehabilitation.

Hutt pointed out that employers are obligated not to discriminate against people with disabilities under the American Disabilities Act.

Through the vocational rehabilitation program, people with disabilities get help to become employed, economically self-sufficient, independent,



Hutt

and integrated into the society.

"The employers, at the end of the vocational rehabilitation process, will really have to keep open to hiring and working with people with disabilities on the job," said Hutt.

While there is heightened awareness in dealing with people with disabilities, Hutt said there still remain stereotypes around those with intellectual or mental health disabilities.

According to Hutt, there are those who believe that people with intellectual or mental health disabilities cannot work as they may cause problems at the workplace. "Those are the ones that I think that we still have to overcome,"

he said.

Hutt noted that understanding the specific type of mental illness that an individual has would certainly help. In the part of the vocational rehabilitation agency, knowing the "symptomatic behavioral issues" and having the counselor know how to work with that specific disability would be "the most important thing" that the agency could do to help the individual.

To overcome stereotypes against people with disabilities, Hutt said getting those people with disabilities who have become successful out in the open and having public outreach programs would educate employers not to rely on "uninformed information."

"I think there has to be that ongoing education so that these uninformed stereotypes don't perpetuate themselves in the workforce," Hutt told *Saipan Tribune*.

Hutt said that besides conducting trainings in the CNMI, the NDRN also offers technical assistance through emails, phone calls, website access, and conferences in the mainland to the staff of NMPASI and OVR. For more information about NDRN, visit www.ndrn.org.

MCPHETRES

From Page 1

stray animals, and the impact of poker arcades. Just last year, his students held a referendum survey on the casino issue at the request of the Senate.

A survey conducted among NMC students also became a subject of controversy after the results showed a low

satisfaction rate in the performances of the NMC Board of Regents and former college president Dr. Carmen Fernandez. His contract was not renewed in 2010, prompting a strong public outcry, resulting in his return after just a few months.

McPhetres said that his students' activities helped many sectors in the Commonwealth that would approach his classes for its help.

McPhetres' valuable contributions have not only been recognized in the Marianas but throughout the Pacific region, where he also contributed several chapters to their history books.

Despite some health issues, McPhetres said he is committed to fulfilling all the things he wants to do and that he will continue to keep his Garapan office open and accept consultancy work.

FITIAL

From Page 1

amid his spat with Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), who has accused the governor of not having an economic recovery plan and of playing politics.

Fitial had described Rota and Tinian senators as "stupid" for rejecting casino gaming on Saipan and that remark spawned a word war between the governor and Manglona.

Rota Mayor Melchor Mendiola was "disappointed" with the budget cut, said Rota Finance director Stacey Atalig, who accompanied the Rota mayor to the meeting with the governor.

"Even now, we're already struggling with the fiscal year 2012 budget. To have a cut of about \$180,000 is disappointing. Who is going to be happy about that?" Atalig said in a phone interview.

Rota and Tinian's fiscal year 2012 budget was over \$4.5 million each.

Atalig said that Rota's budget under the governor's plan will be reduced to almost \$4.3 million, without a budget for the Rota Guesthouse as the mayor had asked the governor.

Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, in a separate interview, said that Tinian got the same budget as last fiscal year.

"We understand the current financial situation, so we asked for the same level. However, for the mayor's office fulltime employees, it was reduced by two, from 105 to 103. I have to let go of two of my employees," he said.

Saipan Mayor Donald Flores separately said that Saipan got a "slight"

budget increase of some \$9,000, bringing it to \$1.88 million in fiscal year 2013.

"I am happy that at least there's a slight increase for Saipan," he said.

Northern Islands Mayor Tobias Aldan was represented by his staff at the meeting with the governor.

The Saipan, Tinian, and Rota mayors all asked the governor for "flexibility" on where to spend the money budgeted for them; for example, from personnel to operation and vice versa.

"The governor gave the mayors flexibility as long as we keep the expenses within the amount allotted us," said Flores.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said the 2013 budget proposal is "very similar to last fiscal year's budget."

"In fact, OMB [Office of Management and Budget] has worked closely with each mayor's office during the budget call period. So there were no lengthy discussions on the figures," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

'Disaster'

In related news, Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said the Retirement Fund crisis started when Fitial's political party in 2006 passed and signed legislation to suspend government employer contribution to the Fund.

"That's the beginning of the disaster," Manglona told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said with a June 15 deadline by Judge Kenneth Govendo for the government to address the problems at the Fund, the governor still does not have a plan to help the Fund or at least a plan to work with both the House and Sen-

ate to address these concerns.

"We don't hear the governor addressing the concerns of the Retirement Fund, CHC, CUC, CIP, and other critical issues. But we always hear him talking about politics. That is why I stand by my statement that if he cannot focus on critical issues and restore 80 hours for employees, he should just let Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos take over his post. Inos being a financial expert will at least focus on what's more important than politics," Manglona said.

Press secretary Demapan said it doesn't make sense that Manglona is now "placing the blame on a 2006 law" because three years after that, in 2009, "the Senate president backed the Fitial-Inos tandem and campaigned in support of their proven leadership."

"So which does he want people to believe now? He says we need to fix the economy, yet blocks any bill that would. He can't make up his mind," Fitial told *Saipan Tribune* in an email through the press secretary.

He said he has been working closely with the Fund to find solutions to help preserve it. This is why he is "strongly backing two initiatives—the Saipan casino and the fee simple sale of public lands currently occupied by major hotels and golf resorts."

He believes the revenues the CNMI stands to generate from these two initiatives "would pump in millions of much needed dollars to alleviate the problems with the Fund."

"I am looking at real long-term solutions because we cannot keep resorting to band-aid solutions. And yet again, Sen. Manglona refuses to support long-term solutions," Fitial added.

MAFNAS

From Page 1

A veteran lawyer told *Saipan Tribune* that taking a driver's license requires some due process of notice and an opportunity to be heard.

Leon Guerrero said that Mafnas over a period of time confiscated driver's license from Filipinos and two Bangladeshis and gave them to his secretary, who then passed the licenses to Leon Guerrero, at the time a uniformed services commander at DPS.

The police captain said that he then made it a point to return the licenses to their owners.

"It's against the law! There's Public Law 16-3, if I'm not mistaken," said Leon Guerrero, who spearheaded the petition seeking Mafnas' ouster from DPS.

He said the licenses were not even expired, hence his insistence on returning them to the owners. "I don't want to get sued. I'm hanging on to people's driver's license when I'm not supposed to," he said.

He said all the licenses were eventually returned to the owners who were contacted and advised to pick them up at DPS. Leon Guerrero said that Sgt. Anthony Macaranas helped him contact the owners and return their licenses to them.

When asked if he told Mafnas that what he was doing was unlawful, Leon Guerrero said that he did so on several occasions. "But no, he is the commissioner. So he believes he's got the right [to seize the licenses]," the captain said.

He said Mafnas is lucky because these people did not file a complaint. "Those licenses were supposedly not to be confiscated in the first place," he pointed out.

Saipan Tribune earlier asked a veteran lawyer about Mafnas' alleged confiscation of driver's licenses and he explained that the commissioner is a law enforcement officer and does have the authority to enforce the law.

He believes, though, that DPS standard procedures require the use of marked vehicles for traffic enforcement.

The lawyer, who asked not to be identified, said if the commissioner observes a violation or crime in progress, either he reports it or takes action himself as a law enforcement officer.

"If there is a traffic violation, the motorist is either given a warning or gets a citation. A person really should get an administrative hearing before his/her license is revoked or taken away," he said.

"Think about it, he takes a person's license and then tells him/her to go? To drive without a license? There should also be a notice to the motorist about the license and when he/she will have a hearing on its return," the lawyer added.

The attorney, however, emphasized that a commissioner usually doesn't do this because he or she will end up being a witness in traffic court, just like any other police officer.

"Plus a person does have civil rights and even a traffic stop does have certain requirements under *Terry v. Ohio* and subsequent cases," he said.

The lawyer said a person can also complain of theft of his or her license if the commissioner does not present himself as a law enforcement officer, clearly identifying himself as a peace officer.

"It is dangerous because a person may believe the commissioner to be falsely claiming to be a police officer and defend himself," the lawyer said.

Meanwhile, police officer Jason Tarkong said yesterday in a statement that any questions regarding the leave status and ongoing investigation on Mafnas can be forwarded to press secretary Angel Demapan.

"Regarding DPS Commissioner Ray Mafnas, any change in the department will always cause issues. So far the department is moving forward. All divisions, sections, and units are continuing on with their mission at hand, which is to provide public safety to our residents and visitors," Tarkong said.

Tarkong said acting commissioner Ambrosio T. Ogunoro has met with commanders and supervisors individually to reinforce Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's message on continuing with the mission of public safety.

Fitial on Mafnas: What matters is probe results

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said yesterday it is "premature" to make any judgment on the allegations being hurled against Department of Public Safety Commissioner Ramon C. Mafnas, adding that he would yield to the results of the Office of the Attorney General's ongoing investigation on these allegations.

The governor placed Mafnas on administrative leave on Monday to pave the way for a thorough and fair investigation, and to prevent disruption of DPS services. Mafnas was the governor's former senior policy adviser.

Fitial said what he believes doesn't really matter, and what matters is "whatever result the investigation yields."

While the governor is disappoint-

ed "to see such allegations arise" because he "places his faith and confidence in his appointees," press secretary Angel Demapan said "this early, it is premature to make any judgment."

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Inos separately said the administration is concerned about the allegations but they want to ensure that each of these allegations is thoroughly and fairly investigated.

OAG's three main areas of investigation are the complaints filed by two security guards and dive instructor; the allegations contained in a petition signed by DPS employees; and a letter from a police captain alleging that Mafnas interfered with a murder investigation.

Fitial said he expects to receive preliminary investigation report from OAG.

DPS assures that detectives are still working on Romero slay

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety assured the public yesterday that its detectives are still actively investigating the killing of bartender Emerita "Emie" Romero in early February.

"DPS is following leads on person[s] of interest but is unable to provide further details at this time. The investigation is still actively ongoing," police officer Jason Tarkong said in a statement yesterday.

Tarkong urged members of the community to call the DPS Criminal Investigation

Bureau at 664-9042 or Crime Stoppers at 234-7272 if they have any information about the Romero murder.

Police Capt. Lawrence Camacho earlier reported to the Office of the Attorney General that DPS Commissioner Ramon C. Mafnas allegedly interfered with the investigation into the killing of Romero.

Sources disclosed that forensic results of the examination done by the Federal Bureau of Investigation laboratory in Virginia are already out. DPS and the FBI have yet to confirm the information as of yesterday.

Last March, Mafnas said the

results of the FBI examinations "will more or less seal" the Romero case. He refused to elaborate. He earlier said that DPS and the FBI are investigating the activities and events associated with a "person of interest."

Romero was last seen alive boarding a green or blue tinted sedan around 3am on Feb. 5 near her residence in Garapan. FBI agents found her body two days later at the northernmost building of the former La Fiestita Mall in San Roque.

Yesterday was her birthday, according to a KSPN report. She would have turned 38.

The cash reward for any information leading to an arrest in this case has already reached \$22,000.

Ray Palacios will not seek re-election

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan) said yesterday he will not be seeking re-election this November as he needs to focus on clearing his name, months after he was charged with drug trafficking.

"I'm confident my name will be cleared," Palacios told *Saipan Tribune* during a Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation session yesterday morning.

This is Palacios' second time to represent Precinct 2 in the House of Representatives where he served as chairman of the Education Committee until stepping down from the post in November due to the drug charges against him.

He said, however, that he will continue to support the Covenant Party. One of the two Covenant candidates for Precinct 2 is his nephew, John Paul P.

Sablan, whom Palacios said he will help. The other candidate is incumbent Rep. Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan), his cousin.

When asked about his plan after his term ends in January, Palacios said, "Let's see what happens."

Meanwhile, the special committee that House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) tasked last year to investigate Palacios' alleged drug use has yet to complete its report.

House floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan) chairman of the Special Standing Committee on Official Conduct and Ethics, said yesterday that the panel can't disclose the contents of the report it is working on but that it will be completed before the midterm elections.

In other news, Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian) told reporters Wednesday that he may run for a Senate seat representing Tinian.



Palacios

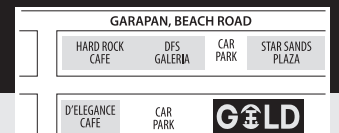
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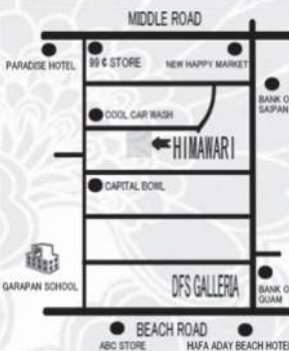
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Fund gets \$256,000 in GHLI allotments from CHC

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. has fulfilled its payment obligation to the NMI Retirement Fund by remitting \$256,000 for the health and life insurance premiums of hospital personnel, according to Fund deputy administrator Esther S. Ada yesterday.

According to Ada, the payment represents delinquent premiums of hospital employees for five pay periods ending Feb. 25, 2012. Corporation employees now owe premiums for just one pay period, covering last week's payroll.

Ada disclosed that there are 108 plan holders at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Some hospital personnel who spoke on condition of anonymity yesterday welcomed the good news, saying this development will help boost the morale of affected employees.

The Group Health and Life Insurance Program is an ancillary service being handled by the Fund administrator for the government. Aetna Global

is the carrier for the health insurance of GHLP members while Individual Assurance Co. handles the life insurance coverage of employees at the public hospital after disclosing

The Fund had issued a 15-day notice of termination for both health and life insurance coverage of employees at the public hospital after disclosing

that the corporation was seven pay periods behind in their payment.

Last Monday, the healthcare corporation also averted the

termination of the health insurance of over a hundred plan holders of Calvo's Insurance after it updated five pay period allotments to their accounts.

Rules out for 2012 agricultural fair

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The rules governing the 2012 Saipan Agricultural Fair are now out. Published in booklets, the rules have been distributed to farmers and ranchers who want to showcase their products at the fair in May.

One of the mandatory requirements for the event, slated for May 26 at the Civic Center 4-H Club Building in Susupe, is that only U.S. citizens and registered voters who are farming and residing on island can take part in the fair.

There will be two main divisions: the Animal and the Plant Divisions. The Animal Division will have 13 categories: Santa Gertrudis Breed & Crosses (bull and cow), non-Santa Gertrudis Breed & Crosses, boar, sow/



Officials and members of the 2012 Saipan Agricultural Fair pose for a photo at the Tuesday Market grounds in Garapan on Tuesday. The group is gearing up for the fair scheduled on May 26 at the Civic Center 4-H Building in Susupe.

gilt, billy, nanny, rabbit, duck, turkey, pigeon, chicken broiler, chicken (layers), and chicken (sports).

The Plant Division is divided into four classes: Class A – Fruit (29 kinds); Class B – Vegetable (26 kinds); and Class C – Root Crop (10 kinds); and Class D – Nuts and Others (five kinds).

Allowed entries for the various categories under the animal and plant divisions are limited only to produce and animals grown and raised on Saipan. Produce bought or borrowed from stores or from other farmers will be disqualified.

There will be a non-refundable registration fee of \$10 per participant for the Plant and An-

imal Divisions and \$1 for each produce or animal/livestock entry. Hauling fees also apply for those who want their swine or cattle transported to the fair site: \$20 per round trip or \$15 for one way.

Each contestant can submit as many entries as they can. Cash prizes await winners for each category under both Animal and Plant Divisions. SAFA adviser Isidoro T. Cabrera said winners will be based on the number of points accumulated per category.

"The more animals and produce you bring, the more chances you have of winning the grand prize," said Cabrera, referring to the \$500 prize for the grand winners under the Animal

and Plant Divisions.

There will also be a separate agricultural fair involving entries from youths ages 8 to 17 years old. A total of 97 different kinds of produce will be accepted as entries. Youth Agricultural Fair winners will receive non-monetary prizes.

Besides the booklets, posters about the event have been disseminated throughout the community, said SAFA treasurer Marianne Teregeyo. "Right now, we're focusing on raising public awareness and promoting the 2012 Agricultural Fair," she added.

For a copy of the rule booklet or for more information about the fair, call 483-1785 or 788-1256.

Project: PROM aims to give teens prom dresses and suits

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence is expecting to receive more donated prom dresses in support of Project: PROM.

Coalition program assistant Keala Peters said that they have received at least 25 dresses, 10 of which were donated by Pena House boutique while the rest are from the public.

This number does not include those that have been received at their project's various drop-off locations like Handbags, etc. along Beach Road in Oleai and at Marianas High School.

What they need right now, Peters noted, are prom apparel for male students like suits, tuxedos, dress shirts, and ties.

Peters said they anticipate collecting more prom dresses and suits from other public high schools and during tomorrow's clothing drive at the Minatchom Atdao, having received several phone inquiries about the project and where they can deliver their donations. Saturday's clothing drive will be from 10am to 2pm.

"We've done a good job raising awareness about the project through the numerous ads we did since last week," Peters told *Saipan Tribune*. "We're still hopeful that we will collect as many until Saturday."

Project: PROM is the coalition's new program supports Saipan's public high school students by providing them with prom or special occasion dresses and suits. Recipients will be selected based on their interest in becoming an advocate against sexual violence or assault.

Peters said junior and high school students interested to receive donations should obtain a form from their school counselors. The form requires the student to write an essay on how to be an advocate. Deadline to submit the form and qualify for a donated dress or suit is on April 11.

Donated items will be distributed to eligible recipients on April 14 in time for the prom season, which is from late April until mid-May.

During the distribution, the coalition and the group Teen Talk will host a workshop covering topics such as confidence building, prom etiquette, healthy relationships, and hair and makeup tips. It will be held at the Multi-Purpose Center from 1pm to 4pm.

The project is part of the celebration of Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April. For more information, contact Peters at 234-3878 or email keala-peters670@gmail.com.

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CNMI Public Law 16-46 "Smoke Free
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For more information or to help us enforce Public Law 16-46, please call the Quit Tobacco Hotline at 323-7848 (QUIT).

This advertisement is made possible by the US Department of Health and Human Services for the CNMI Tobacco Prevention and Control Program under the Community Guidance Center Prevention Office.



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ASSORTED EASTER CANDIES (NOW AVAILABLE)



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dozen



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DEAL**

UNTIL SUPPLIES LAST!



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Shortribs**

**EVERYDAY
LOW
PRICE**

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**US Pork
Chop
End Cut**

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PRICE**

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lb.

**HOT
DEAL**

Sunwhite

**SUNWHITE
CALROSE RICE**
20lb

\$11⁹⁵
bag

UNTIL
SUPPLIES
LAST!



**CAB Brisket
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\$3⁸⁵
lb.



**Pattie Jean
Whole
Chicken Fryer**

\$1²⁷ \$3⁸¹⁰
lb. case



**Black Tiger
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1 Lb 21/25

\$6⁵⁹
pack



**Green Mussel
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\$6⁵⁹
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**Jumbo
Carrots**
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**Crown
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**Red
Delicious
Apples**

\$1⁵⁹
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LOW
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**We're
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Turnips

\$1⁴⁵
lb.



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Cantaloupe
\$1²⁹
lb.

**Crystal Geyser
Nat Apline
Water 1 Gal**

\$2⁹³
each



**Heinz Tomato
Ketchup Top
Down 14oz**

\$2⁰⁵
each



**Super Fresh
Cracked
Wheat**

\$1⁸⁵
each



**Jall Laundry
Basket
with Frame**

\$3⁵⁹
each



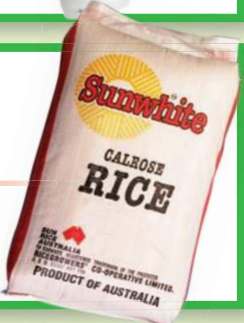
**Western Family
Fruit Cocktail
15oz**

\$1⁸⁹
each



**Sunwhite
Calrose
Rice 50lb**

\$26¹²
sack



**Super Fresh
White Loaf
Bread**

\$1⁵⁵
each

**Rongfa 7 Pc
Kitchen Tool
Set**

\$11⁹⁵
each



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Saturday @ 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

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Tel.: 288-3441/2/3

Women's group to host family fair tomorrow

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Women's Association will be sponsoring a family fair tomorrow as part of the CNMI Women's Month celebration.

The event, intended to empower women and foster healthy and happy families, will be held from 8am to 4pm at the Chamolinian Utt in Garapan.

This year marks the second family fair hosted by CWA, according interim vice president Felicidad Ogomoro.

"The family fair is where we have the women in the community and their families come together and have fun," she said.

There will be various family games, live entertainment, exhibits from different agencies and organizations, and vendor booths. CWA members will also have a booth where they will sell used items.

"We're inviting all the women on island to come out and join us in this event. Bring along your families and friends for a day of fun," said Ogomoro.

The family fair is among the several events hosted by CWA in March. The non-profit group will also hold a forum on healthy relationships, parenting, temporary restraining orders, and current issues next month.

For more information, visit the Garapan Community Center or call 233-8978. You may also call CWA secretary Betsy Cruz at 664-8915 or 71.

Mobil Oil official to keynote next Chamber meeting

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be having its next general membership meeting on April 4, 2012, at the Saipan Grand Hotel, with keynote speaker Jaime Andres Ortega I, president and country manager for Mobil Oil Micronesia, an ExxonMobil subsidiary.

Ortega will present an overview of the CNMI fuel supply process, the determining factors behind current gas pricing, and comments addressing House Bill 17-238's risks of fuel regulation.

Also presenting to the SCC membership will be Superior Court Associate Judge David Wiseman, co-chair of the SCC Armed Forces Committee, with a status report on the Guam military buildup, and James Arenovski introducing the Bridge Project.

Luncheon will begin at 11:30am and meeting will begin at 12pm. SCC Members and company representatives are charged a \$20 luncheon fee, while guests and non-SCC attendees are charged \$30.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, founded in 1959 and incorporated in 1976, is the largest private business organization in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. (SCC)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Mar. 31, 1999

FAS bill a booster to anti-crime efforts, DPS says

The Department of Public Safety has added its voice to the growing support from government agencies over a proposed legislation restricting the stay of Freely Associated States citizens in the CNMI, saying it is a step to curb rising crimes involving their nationals on the island. Public Safety Commissioner Charles W. Ingram said the bill addresses important "nondiscriminatory issues" affecting citizens from FSM, Palau and Marshalls and their impact on local resources and infrastructure. The department has seen "an increasingly large percent of reported cases committed" by FAS citizens here, eating up a chunk of its operations and budget, he said in a letter to Rep. Melvin Faisao, sponsor of House Bill 11-294 or the Habitual Residency Act.

Compensation law eases plight of Bangladeshis

Fifteen Bangladeshi nationals will be repatriated next week under a recently implemented law that allows the government to provide up to \$3,000 in compensation to nonresident workers awaiting awarded monetary damages. They will be the first batch of displaced workers to receive financial assistance from the CNMI set forth in Public Law 11-66 which was signed last month in another attempt to deal with growing number of labor cases on the island and stave off federal takeover of local labor and immigration. According to Labor and Immigration Sec. Mark Zachares, the 15 Bangladeshi workers, who were employed as security guards and abandoned by their employers, would receive money equivalent to three-month salary and a one-way plane ticket back to their country.

Mar. 31, 2000

Teno's decision on 80MW project out soon

The fate of the controversial Saipan power project will soon be known as Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio pledged yesterday to act immediately on legislation restoring the mothballed 80-megawatt proposed plant. The chief executive said his legal counsel has reviewed Senate Bill 12-19 and that he expects to decide whether to sign or veto it by today or early next week. The measure, offered by Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes, will force the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation to reinstate the original proposal and scrap a plan to re-bid a new power plant with a 60-MW capacity.

Govt deploys over 250 enumerators for Census 2000

Thirty-year-old Hope brags that she would not provide enumerators accurate answers when she is interviewed for the United States Constitution-mandated periodic gathering of population data. Hope, who is a mother of two U.S.-born children, is one of the group of people who does not take census seriously on belief that the government's effort is nothing more than statistics. Like other unaware people, Hope is oblivious of the reasons why a complete accounting of every individual is conducted throughout the United States every 10 years, according to Washington Census 2000 Advisor Tasha Boone.

Mar. 31, 2001

'NMC administrators are underpaid'

Northern Marianas College administrators are getting lower wages compared to the median pay that their counterparts are getting in other community colleges in the U.S. Latest statistics presented by NMC president Kenneth Wright during Friday's Board of Regents meeting showed that some NMC administrators would need up to 72-percent increase in their salaries to meet the median. The NMC came up with its own computation based on the 2002 statistics released by the Chronicle of Higher Education, which originated from the reports of 1,444 public and private colleges and universities nationwide.

DEQ cites water firm, Ada gym for violating regs

The Division of Environmental Quality disclosed Friday it issued several notices of violations to different establishments including the Ada Gymnasium and a bottled water company in connection with its enforcement of drinking water regulations. DEQ public information specialist Therese Hocog said Aqua Best, a bottled water company in San Antonio, violated regulations when its water system tested positive for coliform bacteria in January. The agency, however, only issued the citation early this month. The citation showed that two of five samples from Aqua Best's public water system tested positive for the bacteria.



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T / TH - LUNCH SPECIAL
SATURDAY (MARCH 31ST) - PIT ROASTED PIG
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7:00AM - 11:00 PM (MON-SUN)
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 Lotus Rice
 50lbs.

\$25⁹⁹

 P.R. Jasmin
 Rice
 20kg.

\$26⁹⁹

 Diamond
 G Rice
 50lbs.
 LIMIT

\$28⁹⁹

 Nongshin
 Bowl
 Noodle

\$7⁹⁹
 CASE

Ichiban

\$10⁹⁹
 CASE

 King Chef
 Vegetable
 Oil 5gal

\$31⁹⁹

FAMILY BAG

Stew Chicken	\$6.99
Chicken Leg Qtr	\$5.99
Chicken Wings	\$11.99
Chicken Nuggets	\$11.99
Mackerel Fish	\$5.99
Pork Hock	\$6.99
Pork Adobo	\$9.99
Pork Bellies	\$11.99
Pork Chop	\$11.99
Pork Spareribs	\$6.99
Beef Ribeye	\$15.99
Beef Stew	\$12.99
Beef Shank	\$11.99
Beef Feet	\$7.99
Beef Shortribs	\$15.99

 Chicken Leg
 Quarter
 33lbs

\$26⁹⁹
 LIMIT

 Whole
 Chicken
 30lbs

\$37⁹⁹
 LIMIT

 Pork Spareribs
 20lbs

\$21⁹⁹

Beef Patties

\$6⁶⁹

Vega Shrimps

\$5⁷⁹
 LB.

 Mega
 Butane
 Gas

\$23⁴⁹
 CASE

GROCERIES

BEVERAGE

Ox & Palm Corned Beef

\$2⁹⁹
 11.5 OZ.

Spam All Kinds

\$2³⁹
 EA

Black Label Luncheon

\$1⁷⁹
 EA..

 Campbell's
 Chicken Noodle

89¢
 10 OZ.

 Libby's Vienna
 Sausage

69¢
 5 OZ.

 Master A1
 Tuna

\$1³⁹
 7 OZ.

Coco Tuna

\$1³⁹
 5 OZ.

 Beach Cliff
 Sardines

99¢

 Ace of Diamond
 Tuna

\$1³⁹

 Kool-Aid
 Jammers

\$2⁹⁹
 BOX

Century Tuna

89¢
 7 OZ.

 Hormel Mary Kitchen
 Corned Beef Hash

\$1⁹⁹
 6.5 OZ.

 Hormel Chili
 with Beans

\$1⁶⁹
 15 OZ.

 Hormel Chili
 No Beans

\$1⁷⁹
 15 OZ.

Star Margarine

\$5²⁹
 1 Kilo

 Kikkoman
 Soy Sauce

\$3⁹⁹
 1.6 L.

 Kimchi
 Base

\$6³⁹
 13.5 OZ.

Morton Salt

85¢
 450 gm

 Vlasic Sliced
 Dill Pickle

\$5⁹⁹
 1 GAL.

Sunkist

\$6⁹⁹
 CASE

 Dinty Moore
 Beef Stew

\$1⁶⁹
 15 OZ.

 Dinty Moore
 Meatball Stew

\$1⁶⁹
 15 OZ.

 Royal Spaghetti
 Noodle

\$2⁴⁹
 1 kg.

 Excellent
 Rice Stick

99¢

Tabasco

\$6⁷⁹
 12 OZ.

 Del Monte Spaghetti
 Sauce (all kinds)

\$1⁵⁹
 26.5 OZ.

 Del Monte
 Whole Corn

\$5⁴⁹
 106 OZ.

 Del Monte
 Whole Corn

99¢
 15 OZ.

 Enfamil
 Infant

\$4¹⁹⁹
 CASE

 Ruby Kist Apple
 Juice

\$3⁹⁹
 64 OZ.

 Kellogg's
 Frosted Flakes

\$3⁷⁹
 12 OZ.

 Kellogg's
 Corn Pops

\$3⁹⁹
 12 OZ.

 Kellogg's
 Apple Jacks

\$3⁹⁹
 EA. 12 OZ.

 Kellogg's
 Tri-pak

\$12⁹⁹

 General Mills
 Tri-pak

\$8⁹⁹

 Argo Corn
 Starch

99¢
 5 LBS.

 Gold Medal
 Flour

\$3⁴⁹
 37.02 OZ.

 Pancake
 Mix

\$2⁷⁹
 18.25 OZ.

 Duncan Hines
 Cake Mix

\$1⁹⁹

 Ruby Kist Orange
 Juice

\$4⁹⁹
 64 OZ.

Tang Orange

\$7⁹⁹
 22 QTS.

Kool-Aid

\$7⁹⁹
 34 QTS.

 Nestea
 Lemon

\$5⁴⁹
 45 OZ.

 Coffee
 Mate

\$8⁹⁹
 50 OZ.

 Folgers
 Coffee

\$8⁷⁹
 12 OZ.

 Folgers
 Coffee

\$11⁹⁹
 33.3 OZ.

 Maxwell
 Coffee Mix

\$7⁹⁹
 100 CT.

 Best Food
 Mayonnaise

\$15⁴⁹
 1 GAL.

GB Mayonnaise

\$9⁶⁹
 1 GAL.

Pepsi Can

\$16⁴⁹
 CASE
 LIMIT

 Country Lime
 Lemonade

\$7⁹⁹

 Quaker Oats
 (Oatmeal)

\$4⁴⁹
 42 OZ.

 Whole
 Chicken Can

\$5⁹⁹
 50 OZ.

 Real Lemon
 Juice

\$3³⁹
 32 OZ.

 Dragon
 Vegetable Oil

\$9⁴⁹
 1 GAL.

 Fresco
 Vegetable

\$9⁴⁹
 1 GAL.

 DelMonte
 Ketchup

\$4⁶⁹
 2.64 OZ.

 Happy Time
 Assorted Cookies

\$6⁴⁹

 Golden
 State Vinegar

\$3⁹⁹
 2.1 GAL.

Jinro Soju

\$28⁹⁹
 CASE

 Carnation
 Evaporated Milk

\$1⁴⁹

 Foremost
 Milk

\$20⁴⁹

 White Sugar
 2kg

\$2⁷⁹
 2 KG.

 Krutaia
 Coconut Milk

99¢

 Aroy-D Coconut
 Milk

\$1⁶⁹

 Bright Coconut
 Milk

\$1⁶⁹

 Lotte Mineral
 Water

\$5⁴⁹
 500ML

 Wilkins
 Water

\$2⁹⁹
 6000ML

 Pringles
 (All Kinds)

\$1⁹⁹

 Shim Ramyun
 Noodles Soup

\$11⁴⁹
 CASE

Hite Can

\$16⁴⁹
 CASE

PRODUCE

Onion

69¢
 LB.

Potato

79¢
 LB.

Cabbage

89¢
 LB.

Korean Pear

\$2⁹⁹
 LB.

Broccoli

\$1⁴⁹
 LB.

Celo Apple

\$3⁴⁹
 1/2 BAG

Orange

99¢
 LB.

 Honeydew/
 Cantaloupe

99¢
 LB.

Garlic

\$1²⁵
 5 PCS.

 U.S. X-Large
 Eggs

\$2³⁹
 1 DOZ.

FROZEN

Hashbrown

\$4⁵⁹
 20PCS.
\$2²⁹
 10PCS.

 Bar S Jumbo
 Franks

\$1¹⁹

Millers Sausage

\$16⁹⁹

Bar S Ham

\$18⁹⁹
 10LBS.

Bar S Bacon

\$3²⁹

 Ground
 Beef

\$10⁹⁹
 5LBS.

 Chamorro
 Sausage

\$4⁴⁹
 10LBS.

 Brown Serve
 Sausage

\$1⁶⁹

Ground Pork

\$22⁴⁹
 10LBS.

Tilapia

\$1⁰⁹
 /LB.

NON-FOOD

Purex

\$4⁴⁹
 50 OZ.

Gain Liquid

\$6⁴⁹
 50 OZ.
\$10⁹⁹
 100 OZ.

 Gain Powder
 120 loads

\$16⁹⁹
 50 OZ.

Joy Ultra

\$1⁴⁹
 12.5 OZ.
\$6⁹⁹
 90 OZ.

 Huggies
 Big

\$17⁹⁹
 BOX

Luvs Big

\$17⁹⁹
 BOX

 Drypers
 Convenient

\$5⁷⁵

 Luvs Baby
 Wipes

\$11⁹⁹
 432PCS.
\$3³⁹
 216PCS.

 Bounty Paper
 Towel

\$19⁹⁹
 15 ROLLS

 Bounty Paper
 Towel

\$8⁹⁹
 8 ROLLS

 Dawn
 Dishwashing
 Soap

\$8⁹⁹
 90 OZ.

 Suave Shampoo
 & Conditioner
 2 for

\$3⁰⁰

 Safe Guard
 Bar-Soap

79¢
 135 g.

 Head &
 Shoulders

\$5⁴⁹
 EA. 14 OZ.

 Head & Shoulders
 Shampoo

\$7⁹⁹
 23 OZ.

 Herbal Essence
 (all kinds)

\$5⁹⁹
 700ML.
\$3³⁹
 120Z.

 Charmin Ultra
 Strong Tissue

\$6⁹⁹
 24 ROLLS

 Charmin Basic
 Toilet paper

\$14⁹⁹
 24 ROLLS.
\$8

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Volume XXII, Issue No. 76Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

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EDITORIAL

Employers asking for passwords is just wrong

Silicon Widgets Inc. doesn't want to hire a new VP for marketing who's all over YouTube with hilarious videos lampooning the uselessness of Widgets. We get that. So in addition to reference calls and record checks, HR departments would be crazy not to add a vigorous Internet search to check on what's out there for all the world to see.

But asking candidates for passwords to sites such as Facebook? No way. That's just wrong. The newly surfaced practice is an invasion of privacy and an invitation to all sorts of mischief by employers who have shown, just by asking, that they lack respect for employees.

Nobody is more appalled than Facebook, which has been trying to offer more privacy options. It sent out a reminder of its terms of use over the weekend, but company policies don't carry enough legal weight to stop this. And no website privacy system or instruction does any good if users are compelled to give up their passwords. It's like giving prospective employers a key to your house, or at least your Post Office box.

It's really a case of employment law needing to catch up with the Internet age. Passwords give employers access to information they're prohibited from asking about, from relationships to political views. The laws also should apply to schools and universities. They'd never demand to open a student's paper mail.

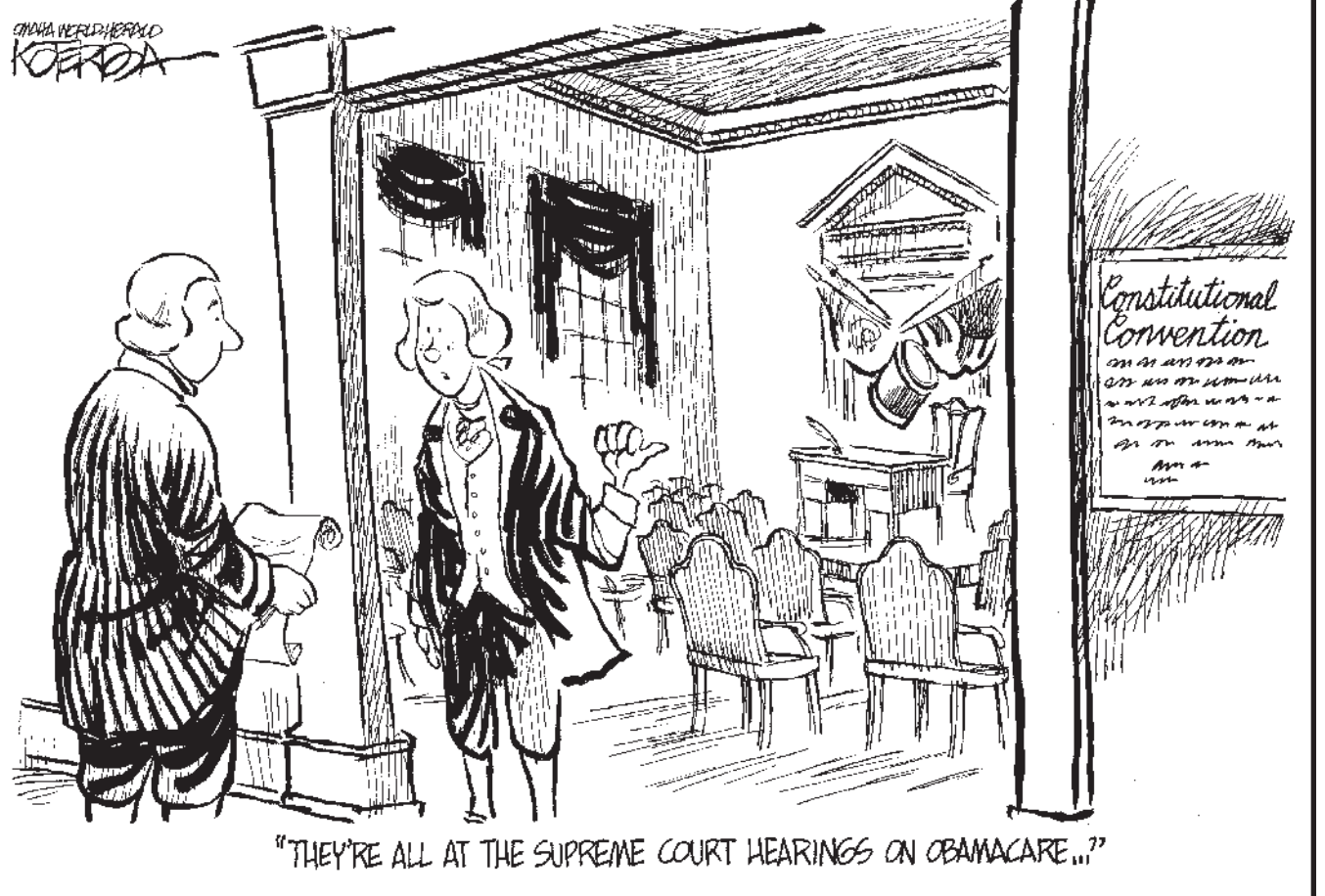
On Monday the Federal Trade Commission came out with new standards for Internet privacy. Among other things, they will require clearer information on how consumers can achieve the level of privacy they want. People have been clamoring for more protection. It's a measure of their frustration that when Facebook sent out a reminder of its privacy policy over the weekend in response to this flap, it sparked outrage in Germany and some other quarters because people thought the company was springing something nefarious.

Nothing on the Internet is guaranteed, or perhaps even likely, to be private forever, even if you're sure you only showed those racy pictures to your closest 500 friends on Facebook, Google + or the next new social media sensation due out in about five minutes. Students will learn that the hard way when, a decade or two from now, those provocative pictures or drunken rants that seemed so funny at the time resurface at high school or college reunions, in a search by the boss or, God forbid, on their own kids' computers. Ah, for olden days, when young people vented their innermost thoughts to their friends one at a time on the phone, which was attached to the wall for some reason.

Employers or schools Googling an applicant is fine. If anybody can see the candidate's sidesplitting Widget videos, then they're fair game. But asking for passwords to private sites is wrong and should be prohibited.

Even then, it will be generally wise to not post anything online that might cost you a job or relationship in the future. Particularly since today's kids are the job recruiters of tomorrow, and they'll know just where to look.

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CHALAN KANOA
KORRA

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Dude, where's my universe?

You'd think a remote place like Saipan would offer clear skies for stargazing. I've never found that to be the case, however. Maybe high humidity is the culprit. I don't know. And after I poked my snoot into some recent news on astronomy, "I don't know" is my new astronomical anthem.

Here's something to consider: Scientists don't know what the universe is made of. You'd think that's a pretty basic fact, but it's a total mystery.

If you'd like an attention-getter to hook you into the subject, then here's a grab from the back of a book, *The 4% Universe*, by Richard Panek: "In recent years, a handful of scientists have been in a race to explain a disturbing aspect of our universe: only 4 percent of it consists of matter that makes up you, me, and every star and planet. The rest is completely unknown."

Unknown, the man says. Unknown!

That unknown stuff is called dark matter and dark energy. Sounds mysterious, indeed. And these mysteries are no mere footnote in the cosmic cookbook, but are thought to be the main ingredients for existence itself.

Looking back to school days, nobody sprang this dark matter gig on us, we normal civilians outside the gate of scientific expertise who were just dabbling in a few astronomy courses. Back then, I figured that stuff was, well, stuff. Nobody told me that stuff wasn't stuff, or, maybe more to the point, that the stuff that wasn't stuff was really most of the stuff.

Dark matter had been theorized in the 1930s actually. But that memo never filtered down to my plebeian level; maybe I was too busy looking for discount coupons on spark plugs and doughnuts.

But some of what we were taught in school seems to be holding.

Dire need for integrity

Amidst mounting pressure, Sen. Frank Q. Cruz of Tinian delivered the unexpected: rejection of several Republican nominees for questionable deals or ill-conceived decisions or the debacle of serving two masters. It's a heavy load of issues he's decided to dissect thoroughly.

The debate has turned viral, though Cruz's determination to press ahead could lead into a dreaded, if not humiliating implosion against those battling to derail the probe into the filthy swamp of bitter provincial politics.

Cruz heads the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigation, or EAGI. It is a difficult committee to head if you're a man of integrity. Cruz is a man of integrity who holds his ground to begin emptying the filthy swamp on the hill.

Senator Cruz could have played the usual dish of filthy politics by conveniently skipping the controversy triggered by serious questions emanating from his committee on MPLT's purchase of real estate. He's seen the explosive juvenile reactions from among key players who yell "foul," not because it is riddled with false information but because Cruz could get to the truth. This is the obvious fear from people of interest, though he will definitely do, if not already did, the required paper trail to nail the beast to its cross.

For myopic dissenters, you need to revisit your definition and understanding of integrity, sense of accountability, perception of the term leadership, and commitment to your oath of office. If you're so far removed from these terms, then you know that your weak-kneed position makes you a perennial serial violator of the laws of the NMI. If need be, please cross check your coconuts to see if personal integrity is still intact.

Why is Cruz's effort admirable? Simple: He has a sense of purpose and conviction to inform governance of the "truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth." Thanks, sir, for that rare courage and conviction. You've taken the pain and unjustified humiliation to stand together with governance. It's a pleasantry that I haven't seen here for over three decades. You've confirmed that there are still a few good men left to do what is right. What you've done is essentially the strengthening of the CNMI's democratic institutions. *Si Yuus Ma'ase'* and congratulations!

A once heralded holiday

With occasional showers threatening to provide sustenance to parched brown grass all over, there's the wake-like silence too that turned last Friday—now an unheralded legal holiday, not to mention an unpaid holiday—into just another inconsequential cotton ball passing event. Sad.

Gone are the days when we meet this day with words of wisdom from messages cascading from the hill or renewed spirit to re-awaken the responsibilities of U.S. citizens among Chamorros and

The ultimate cosmic hand grenade, the Big Bang, pulled its pin 13.7 billion years ago. The galactic shrapnel is still flying away in all directions. In other words, the universe is expanding.

One question is whether gravity will eventually pull everything from the flying-apart mode and into the pulling-together mode. For the latter case to happen, there would need to be enough mass in the universe to generate enough gravity to pull everything back together, so at some point the universe would stop expanding and start contracting, thus creating a cosmic U-turn that will end in a Big Squish.

On the other hand, if there isn't sufficient mass in the universe, then there won't be sufficient gravity either for a cosmic U-turn. In that case, the universe will keep on expanding. It will get thinner than dime store soup.

So while they have a good idea how the universe started (the Big Bang), they don't know how it will end, because they don't yet know how much mass it has.

So, yeah, I'm serious here: They've got to weigh the entire universe. That's a bigger task than I could tackle. I tried weighing my dog once, and though I had "x" points of leverage, he always had "x + 1" points of resistance. Perhaps the cosmos has the same tricks.

Meanwhile, various observations made for various reasons, such as, in one case, studying the rotational behavior of galaxies, seemed to indicate that there was more mass in play than the scientists could actually see. In other words, the cosmic couch showed deep impressions like a fat guy was sitting on it, but there was only a skinny guy visible in the room.

Since this invisible cosmic fat guy is likely made up of teeny-tiny particles smaller than atoms, scientists in laboratories are trying to figure out how to find these particles. So the biggest issue, the uni-

Carolians. The only thing missing on this day was a requiem Mass and an internment schedule to bring it to closure.

Apathy has permeated or descended steadily among the under-employed and unemployed or families, cringing as they prepare to pay their utility bills the next day. Or is the strange feeling partly forced by the Lenten season? But isn't this religious event supposed to grant us hope and lead us into spiritual renewal on Easter? Some strange Friday that I find nearly disorienting, what with scorching heat and eerie silence everywhere.

Nonetheless, it was 37 years ago that we held a large festive ceremony loaded with pomp and circumstance, celebrating our entry into the "American political family." It was a permanent relationship viewed by its architects as a showcase for the region of everything that could go right as a part of the greatest country on earth.

Somehow all the hopes and excitement that met this occasion slowly drained into the swamp of a very dysfunctional relationship between the CNMI and the feds. Where did things go wrong that derailed a synergistic working relationship between the two governments? Did we ignore the very vehicle that would have promoted meaningful discussions with Washington as time progresses? If so, why were we negligent of this vehicle known as the Commission on Federal Laws?

Then came the economic boom of the '80s and '90s that went bust shortly. The NMI had tons of money founded on the combined economy of apparel manufacturing, tourism, and small businesses. Did we experience an economic burnout, thus the steady loss of investors shortly thereafter? As it shifted fatally under our feet, did we lift a finger to recalibrate paradigms or did we, like a losing gambler, stayed around to wait for the delayed bad tidings that he's lost it all? Well, it shows our shortsightedness and comfortable dalliance with ad hoc planning over the more thoughtful planning process. Dazed, we ask: why did investors leave? Why question your own awareness?

There were draconian federal laws that hastened the investment drain of some \$3 billion to \$7 billion that once was recycled locally. The additional cost is horrific not to mention our adolescent contribution by taxing businesses until making a profit turns highly prohibitive. We forced them into thinking with their feet while holding their luggage and sure enough they just headed to jetways and said *sayonara*. This led to revenue streams accelerating further south, the net effect being a huge plunge in annual revenues that went from \$256 million annually to \$102 million today.

For all the deafening travails of a new economic reality of sheer dystopia, meaning, where nothing works, strange too that last Friday felt like, well, Good Friday. A' Saina!

■ ■ ■

Political fireflies

The boys don colorful political wings and have started turning into

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.
His column runs every Friday.



verse, has become the smallest one, sub-atomic particles. So I guess little is the new big. Or is big the new little?

As freaky as dark matter is, dark energy is apparently so freaky that few will even attempt an explanation to slobbs like me. But here's a suitably weird tidbit I've read, which brings us back to the Big Bang gig: Instead of slowing down, the expansion of the universe is actually speeding up. How can that happen? Hey, don't ask me. But dark energy is offered as a theoretical explanation.

I used to think of stars and space as pretty much settled stuff. The celestial scene was a solid anchor that counteracted the quirky vicissitudes of earthly life. But now? Now all I see is question marks. I mean, 96 percent unknown? I don't like those odds. Heck, the house odds in blackjack are around 51 percent or so.

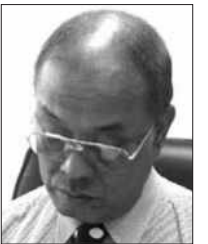
Well, I don't have the solution, but I darned sure have the answer: I'm trading in my Newtonian telescope for a cardboard kaleidoscope. And with the money left over from the swap I'm heading to Tinian to hit the casino, where I can enjoy better odds.

After all, back in the day it all seemed so simple. But since then, Dude, somebody stole my universe.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



the firefly mode: Illuminate their lights to flash their candidacy, though they can't keep it on beyond a couple of seconds. It dies off by itself given its short lifespan. But it's a flash faint as it may be.

The metaphor may be strange, but take a closer look at the time frame the six-legged creature illuminates lights: woefully short. That it's so short reflects the apparent attitude by incumbents to do quick flashers in order to deflect or hide their dastardly performance in the last two years. If you know your performance, then it would be oxymoronic to chance publicly asking for support. You'd end up doing the *mea culpa* of "shame on me."

But must governance repeat with failures that have changed into habitual serial violators of the public trust? For incumbents and new recruits, do you really have the wherewithal to do serious work on policymaking? Why are you so scared of being infected with the virus of reason? If you're a hotshot, then why is the CNMI in the abyss of a woefully chaotic economy, forcing the multitude to march toward financial servitude? Were you part of the solution or more of a problem by playing up brinkmanship? Have you undertaken placing a framework to boost revenue generation via the long thoughtful process? Wait, I think Jay Leno's on tonight.

SAIPAN

From Page 10






cessors together with our pioneering site development partnership team, including those volunteers who most recently joined the site development planning group in inviting the public to the *kios-ku* ribbon cutting ceremony slated this year once the final phase of the *kios-ku* construction is expected to complete in April 2012. In which case, the site development planning advisory will be dissolved and replaced by the council's official ribbon cutting advisory and transition ad hoc committee under the council's leadership.

Ramon Blas Camacho is chairman of the 11th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council (saipanmunicipalcouncil.blogspot.com).

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 75°	▲ 87° ▼ 75°	▲ 87° ▼ 75°	▲ 87° ▼ 75°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 89 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Mostly Sunny	▲ 91 ▼ 79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 79
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 79
Majuro	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 80

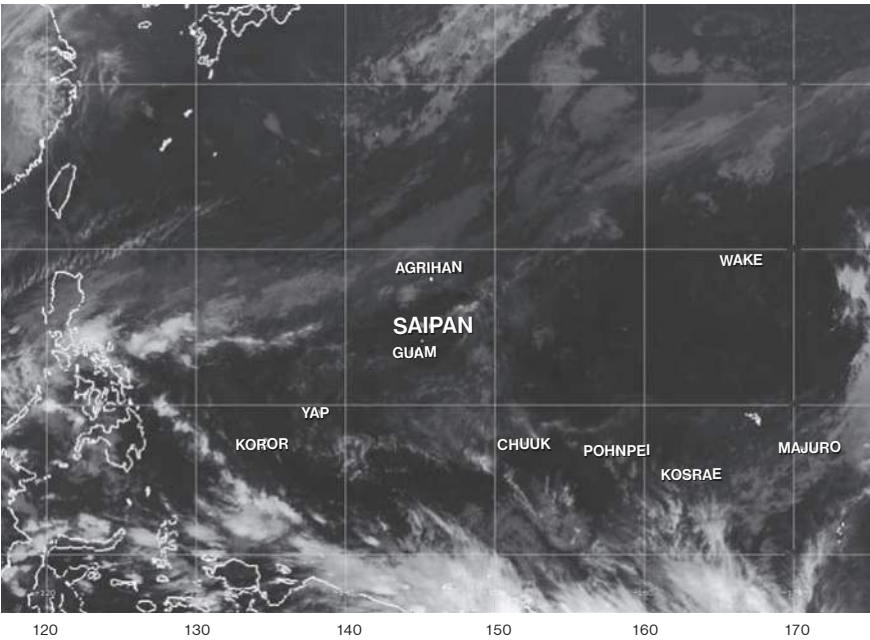
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 67 ▼ 61
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲ 56 ▼ 31
Hong Kong	Showers	▲ 71 ▼ 64
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 80 ▼ 71
London	Sunny	▲ 65 ▼ 45
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 72 ▼ 53
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 77 ▼ 62
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 84 ▼ 68
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 55 ▼ 42
Osaka	Showers	▲ 57 ▼ 41
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 68 ▼ 43
Pusan	Showers	▲ 55 ▼ 37
Rome	Sunny	▲ 72 ▼ 50
Salem	Showers	▲ 52 ▼ 42
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 54
Seoul	Showers	▲ 50 ▼ 32
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 58 ▼ 41
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 50

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
2:30 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet	
7:38 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet	
12:32 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet	
8:18 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A shear line extends southwestward from north of Wake Island at 25N166E across the far northern CNMI near Pagan at 17N146E to beyond 130E at 14N. Cloudiness and scattered showers are present along and up to 350 miles northwest of this boundary. A near-equatorial trough heads east-southeastward from 4N130E to end south of Pohnpei at EQ158E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found south of Yap and Koror or south of a line from 4N130E to 4N146E to EQ152E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers near Majuro within 200 miles of a line from 2N167E to 9N180.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:14 AM	6:29 PM
Saturday	6:13 AM	6:29 PM
Sunday	6:13 AM	6:29 PM
Monday	6:12 AM	6:30 PM
Tuesday	6:11 AM	6:30 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:27 AM	
Saturday	12:19 PM	12:40 AM
Sunday	1:12 PM	1:27 AM
Monday	2:07 PM	2:13 AM
Tuesday	3:02 PM	2:58 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

■ CAMPUS BULLETIN
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 11, 2012									
DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				
C05062	2:10am	2:40am	1, 5		C05064	5:15am	5:45am	1, 5	
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)					ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)				
C05064	4:15am	4:50am	1, 5		C05062	3:10am	3:45am	1, 5	
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)					GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN				
C05064	4:15am	5:45am	1, 5 via ROP		C05062	2:10am	3:45am	1, 5 via ROP	
C05070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7		C05069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	
C05068	8:25am	9:15am	Daily		C05071	7:00am	7:50am	Daily	
C05074	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7		C05073	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	
C05076	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7		C05075	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7	
C05078	6:50pm	7:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7		C05077	5:30pm	6:20pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	
C05078	7:00pm	7:50pm	3, 6		C05077	5:40pm	6:30pm	3, 6	
C05072	9:55pm	10:45pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7		C05079	8:35pm	9:25pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	
C05072	10:05pm	10:55pm	3, 6		C05079	8:45pm	9:35pm	3, 6	
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)					NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
DL287	6:00am	8:40am	Daily		DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily	
DL285	6:35am	9:15am	1, 3, 5, 7		DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily	
DL297	4:25pm	7:15pm	Daily		DL286	7:40pm	12:20am+1	2, 4, 6, 7	
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)					OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN				
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily		OZ120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily	
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)					SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN				
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1		OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily	
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX	
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX		OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7	
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily		OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)					BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN				
OZ608	3:35am	7:05am	4, 7		OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	3, 6	
DL581	4:10am	7:30am	1, 5		DL580	10:10pm	2:55am+1	4, 7	
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)					GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN				
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6		3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5	
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)					SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7		3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN		DL172/288	8:00am	1:15am+1	Daily via NRT	
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		C0190/5077	10:55am	6:30pm	3, 6 via GUM	
C05070/191	4:35am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM		C0190/5079	10:55am	9:35pm	3, 6 via GUM	
DL287/173	6:00am	10:25pm	Daily via NRT		OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
C05068/183	8:25am	9:25pm	2, 5 via GUM		OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
C05068/183	8:25am	9:40pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		PR110/C05071	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	
C05076/183	3:10pm	9:25pm	2, 5 via GUM		C0192/5071	10:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau	
C05076/183	3:10pm	9:40pm	1, 4, 7 via GUM		C0184/5071	11:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	
C05076/193	3:10pm	11:00pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau		OZ704/603	11:40pm	2:20pm	Daily via ICN	
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN		C0184/5071	11:59pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM	
C05072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 5, 7 via GUM						
C05072/PR111	10:05pm	7:50am+1	3, 6 via GUM						
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)					HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN				
OZ606/721	2:10am	12:00pm	1 via ICN		OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN	
OZ606/721	2:40am	12:00pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN	
C05076/147	3:10pm	10:25pm	1, 5 via GUM		OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN	
OZ604/723	3:20pm	10:30pm	Daily via ICN		OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
OZ604/749	3:20pm	10:50pm	Daily via ICN		C0180/5071	11:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM	
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana									
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)									

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 100	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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MAR. 30 - APR. 1, 2012

Young Spare Ribs
10 LBS.
\$22.99
3 DAYS ONLY
MAR. 30 - APR. 1, 2012

Pork Spareribs
BBQ/Adobo Cut
20 LBS.
\$21.99
3 DAYS ONLY
MAR. 30 - APR. 1, 2012

Beef Back Ribs
20 LBS.
\$27.99

Gusto Smoked Ham
\$2.29
/POUND

Mackerel SABA
22.4 LBS. **\$24.99**
PIKE (uneven weight per case) **\$1.29** /LB.

Vegetable Oil
5 Gal. limit 1
\$31.99
3 DAYS ONLY
MAR. 30 - APR. 1, 2012

Lotte Icis Water
500ml. x 20
\$5.99 /CASE

Jasmine Lotus Rice
50 LBS. (LIMIT 1)
\$25.99
3 DAYS ONLY
MAR. 30 - APR. 1, 2012

Diamond G Rice
50 LBS. (LIMIT 1)
\$30.99
3 DAYS ONLY
MAR. 30 - APR. 1, 2012

Marukiyo's Rice Crackers
100pcs.
\$8.99 /CAN

Sapporo Ichiban
21 pcs./case (LIMIT 1)
\$8.99 /CASE
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MAR. 30 - APR. 1, 2012

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210 g.
BUY 1 TAKE 1

Nescafe Classic
52.5 g.
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Bar-S Ham 10 lbs. **\$19.99**

Miller Sausage 5 lbs. **\$15.99**

Chamorro Sausage Reg/Hot 1 lb. **\$4.99**

Bar-S Bacon 1 lb. **\$3.29**

Bar-S Hotdog 1 lb. **\$1.19**

Seaport Imitation Crab Stick 16 oz. **\$1.99**

Ground Beef 5 LBS. **\$10.99** 10 LBS. **\$19.99**

Bar-S Hotlinks 24 oz. **\$3.99**

Mackarel/Pike Family Bag **\$6.99**

Peeled Shrimp SC Brand 1 lb. **\$2.99**

Ocean Gem Seafood Mix 1 lb. **\$2.49**

Cut Swimming Crab 1.5 lbs. **\$6.99**

Vega Shrimp 1 lb. **\$5.99** Limit 1

NZ Greenshell Mussels Sanford 2 lbs. **\$5.99** 3 DAYS ONLY MAR. 30 - APR. 1, 2012

Chicken Wings 3 lbs. **\$6.99** 5.35 lbs. **\$12.99**

Milk Fish **\$1.59** /LB

Tilapia **\$1.29** /LB

U.S. Extra Large Eggs Dozen **\$2.39** 3 DAYS ONLY MAR. 30 - APR. 1, 2012

Onion **79¢** /LB

Garlic **\$2.99** /LB

Korean Butane Gas Limit 1 Case **\$23.99** /CASE

Foam Cups 51 cnts. **\$2.49**

Bounty Basic 8 ROLLS **\$8.99**

Bounty White 8 ROLLS **\$12.99**

Suave Shampoo and Conditioner (15 oz.) 2 Pcs. **\$3.00**

Horse Shampoo 1 qrt. **\$3.00** 2 FOR

Charmin Basic 24 doubles rolls = 48 rolls **\$14.99**

Charmin Ultra Strong 24 rolls **\$7.99**

Spoon & Fork No Brand Name 100 cnts. **\$1.50**

Diamond Foil 200 Sq. Ft. **\$7.99**

Bottled White Candle (China) 12 pcs/case **\$14.99** /CASE

Scott Napkin 250 sheets **\$3.49**

FAMILY BAG SPECIAL			
BEEF SHANK	\$10.95	STEWING CHICKEN	\$6.95
FLANK STEAK	\$16.95	TURKEY TAIL (FAMILY BAG)	\$4.99
PORK ADOBO	\$10.95	U.S. CHOICE BEEF SHORTRIBS	\$15.99
PORK CHOP	\$11.95	BEEF BACK RIBS	\$7.95
PORK BELLY	\$11.95	BEEF OXTAIL	\$16.95
BEEF STEW	\$12.95	RIBEYE STEAK	\$17.95
BEEF TOP ROUND STEAK	\$14.95	SMOKED HAM STEAK	\$12.95
PORK BUTT	\$10.95		

Spam 12 oz. LIMIT 6 ALL FLAVORS **\$2.49**

Black Label Luncheon Meat 12 oz. (Limit 6) **\$1.79**

Libby's & Armour Vienna Sausage 5 oz. **69¢**

Beach Cliff Sardines 3.75 oz. **\$1.09**

Ox & Palm Corned Beef 11.5 oz. LIMIT 6 **\$2.99**

Hormel Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash 15 oz. **\$1.99**

Hormel Chili No Beans 15 oz. **\$1.99**

DM Beef Stew 15 oz. **\$1.79**

Coco Tuna 7oz. **\$1.29** Limit 6

3 Diamond Tuna **\$1.29** Limit 6

Excellent Bihon **\$1.09**

Campbells Chicken Noodle Soup 10.7 oz. **99¢**

Cream of Mushroom 10 3/4 oz. **\$1.29**

Del Monte Whole Kernel Corn **89¢**

Carnation Evaporated Milk 12 oz. (U.S.) **\$1.39**

Dragon 100% Vegetable Oil 1 Gal. **\$9.99**

AVO Vegetable Oil 1 Gal. **\$9.99**

Fresco Vegetable Oil 1 Gal. **\$9.99**

AVO Distilled Vinegar 1 Gal. **\$3.29**

Crisco Shortening 3 lbs. **\$5.99** Butter

Vlasic Dill Pickles (Wholes) 1 Gal. **\$6.99**

Kikkoman 1.6 L. **\$4.49**

Lemon Powder 5.29 oz. **\$4.99**

Gold Medal Flour 5 lbs. Limit 2 pcs. **\$3.29**

Korean Flour 2.5 kg. **\$3.99**

Korean BBQ Sauce **BUY 1 TAKE 1**

Sugar 2 kg. **\$3.29** Limit 2

Argo Corn Starch Limit 3 pcs. **99¢**

Crisco Shortening 3 lbs. All Vegetable **\$6.99**

Nissin Cup Noodles 27 oz./box all flavors **\$5.99**

Enfamil Premium Lipil 16x8oz RTF **\$41.99** PER CASE

Kraft Cool Whip 16 oz. **\$3.49** 12 oz. **\$2.49**

Anchor Whipping Cream 1 Liter **\$5.99**

Maxwell House 34.5 oz. **\$9.99**

Coffee/Mate 50 oz. **\$7.99** 3 DAYS ONLY MAR. 30 - APR. 1, 2012

Folgers Classic Decaf 33.9 oz. **\$11.99**

Folgers 33.9 oz. **\$11.99**

Korean Flour 1 kg. **\$1.49**

Tang 22 qts. **\$7.99**

Sunkist 1 Case Warm Only **\$6.99**

Lipton Ice Tea Mix 2.83kg. **\$7.99**

MH Coffee Mix 100 sticks Limit 1 **\$8.99** 3 DAYS ONLY MAR. 30 - APR. 1, 2012

Maxim Mocha Gold Coffee Mix 100 count **\$10.99**

Real Fresh Milk (Reduced/Regular) **\$2.29** /CASE

Kool Aid 5 lbs. **\$8.99**

Coke Regular 24/Case Warm Only **\$13.99**

Shasta Cola (warm only) 12oz. **\$1.29** /CASE

Ritz Drink All Flavor (warm only) **\$12.99**

Pepsi 330ml. Warm Only All Flavors **\$14.99** /CASE

U.S. Pepsi 12oz. (warm only) reg. flavor **\$16.99** /CASE

Kool Aid Jammer 177ml. **\$2.99** /BOX

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2X4X16... \$5.70 2X6X18... \$9.90
2X6X12... \$6.70 2X6X20... \$10.90

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Letters to the Editor

They will steal your land

Just the other day I happened to catch Dwaine "The Dog" Chapman, The Bounty Hunter, as I was surfing cable channels. Once again he was hunting down one of those of Hawaiian decent that had failed to show up in criminal court. The Dog visited various beaches, bridges, and jungle habitats where many of the homeless native Hawaiians now live since mainlanders and others had long bought up their islands, pushing the price of land far in excess of what a local could earn or pay. Most natives will never be able to buy land in their homeland. There was no Article 12 to protect the land of the Hawaiian islands.

Many say Article 12 stops business investors from buying

land and setting up their businesses in the CNMI. I think that most business people do a little research and discover that the CNMI government has a history of taking private land without just compensation. In fact there is a law that stops the government from paying civil judgments if the Legislature does not specifically appropriate the funds to pay a judgment against the government. What a deal for the government. As an investor why would I risk millions of dollars to buy land in the CNMI if the government can take it if they choose or decide they need the land for something else or someone else? And by local statue they wouldn't have to pay me if they did not want to.

Of course if outsiders could hold land fee simple in the CNMI, you can bet that someone (maybe even the governor) would somehow find ways to sell public land such as beaches, golf courses, and of course that homestead land and it would somehow end up in mainlanders or relatives' hands. Those that live in the CNMI know that is a true statement.

Once the open season on land begins, there will be people coming to the CNMI to buy or to steal your land. That's right, steal your land. Need money to remodel? I have money to lend at 5-percent interest (the contract's fine print clearly states that is per week). Can't pay, sorry but I am going to take your house

and land. See you in court. Too bad you cannot afford a lawyer. After a few months, your land is my land. Once Article 12 is repealed, the crooks will come and figure out a way to take your land legally or otherwise.

Buy low and sell high, the mantra of all real estate developers and investors. Right now land is very cheap in the CNMI and those of NMD cannot afford to buy it. They have no high paying jobs and cannot afford land payments at this time. But if good paying jobs show up in the future then maybe they can purchase some small piece of their homeland, provided it not sold to outsiders by the repeal of Article 12. For those who are concerned that their great-

grandchildren will not be able to inherit their land, don't worry, most of the land will be owned by mainlanders, Japanese, Koreans, or others. Your heirs will be strangers in their own lands if Article 12 is repealed.

Kenyetta, the first president of the African nation of Kenya, once said, "When the white missionaries came to Kenya, they held Bibles in their hands and we held our lands in our hands. Then they taught us to pray with our eyes closed. When we opened our eyes, our hands held their Bibles and the missionaries' hands held our lands." They have taken most islanders' land, most Native American lands, lands everywhere. They have bought and stolen lands around the world. Do not add the CNMI to the list of conquered lands. If Article 12 is repealed, they will take your land and those of Marianas decent and their children will have no real homeland.

Brad Doerr
Rio Rancho, New Mexico

Comments on Saipan zoning bill

I as one legislator cannot enact legislation. And I alone cannot spot zone anything. Saipan House Local Bill 17-26, S3 was not passed by myself alone; at least a majority of my colleagues voted in support of this legislation.

So in response to those that claim that I spot zoned areas, I say simply that the zoning was done for the overall benefit of the landowners and the community.

In a small community such as Saipan, there will be a need to treat specific areas differently out of consideration for tradition or perhaps to allow for the land to be used efficiently.

The opinion of the Zoning Board is one factor but they alone do not know each and every parcel of land like the owners do. I did my homework. I carefully considered all the amendments. Nothing was done without careful consideration. I simply listened to the needs of the landowners and I took the interests of the community into consideration. That is not spot zoning. Having said that, the Felipe Roberto, Abaros, the Whole Warehouse at Susupe/Matsunaga property, the Big Boyz at As Terlaje, the former Black Micro Compound and many other locations that needed re-zoning are gone—not rezoned! Sadly, I am not going to wait for Zoning and its board to make up their minds. I am taking the matter to the next level for approval.

Rep. Stanley Tudela
McGinnis Torres
17th Legislature, Capital Hill

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* Honda Civic total price \$22,495.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 10.25% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$384.56 or \$177.48 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price \$23,073.60. Documentation fees and registration not included.

Couple's suit vs Rota mayor dismissed

The U.S. District Court for the NMI dismissed Wednesday a lawsuit filed by a couple against Rota Mayor Melchor A. Mendiola and several other government employees for allegedly invading their farm and destroying their crops and plants at the Sabana Protected Areas.

Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed with prejudice the lawsuit filed by Nurul Islam Paeda and Elizabeth Atalig Paeda after the parties reached a settlement. The court, however, shall retain jurisdiction over the case to enforce the settlement agreement.

Manglona granted the parties' agreement to dismiss from the case Mendiola's co-defendants: David M. Calvo, Brian M. Mendiola, Harry M. Mendiola, Francisco L. Mesnagon, Michael B. Manglona, Benedicto M. San Nicolas, and 10 unnamed defendants.

The judge substituted these co-defendants with the Municipality of Rota, saying the municipality will assume all obligations of the dismissed defendants.

Each party agreed to bear his or her own costs and attorneys' fees.

Attorney Ramon K. Quichocho is counsel for the Paedas. Attorney Joaquin DLG. Torres is counsel for Mendiola and co-defendants.

The Paeda couple filed the lawsuit in May 2011. They

sued the defendants for conspiracy to deprive them of property, deprivation of property, and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

In their complaint, the Paedas asked the court to order the defendants to immediately cease and desist from harassing or bothering them, or stealing or destroying their properties.

Quichocho said that, on Jan 21, 2011, the defendants bull-

dozed the plaintiffs' crops and opened at least four undesigned right of ways through the couple's farm.

Quichocho said that Mr. Paeda has been farming at the Sabana Protected Areas since 1991. Sabana is a protected area on Rota but it is also designated for farming activities, under the supervision of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Biometrics processing on Rota, Tinian

Beginning next month, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will be collecting biometrics information from people who are seeking an immigration benefit on the islands of Rota and Tinian. A USCIS mobile team will process biometrics on Rota from April 2 to 12 and on Tinian from April 16 to May 7.

Individuals on Rota and Tinian will be receiving appointment notices in the coming weeks indicating when and where they must go for their biometrics appointment. Individuals must have an appointment notice in order for USCIS to process their biometric information. When USCIS collects a person's photograph, signature, or fingerprints, this is called biometrics collection. The type of biometrics USCIS collects is decided on a case-by-case basis.

USCIS is the agency within

IN BRIEF

USCIS biometrics collection on Rota and Tinian

ROTA

■ Monday, April 2 to Friday, April 6
■ Monday, April 9 to Thursday, April 12
Where: Rota Resort and Country Club's Conference Room, 1st floor, Building H5

TINIAN

■ Monday, April 16 to Friday, April 20
■ Monday, April 23 to Friday, April 27
■ Monday, April 30 to Friday, May 4
■ Monday, May 7
Where: Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino's The Tinian Room, One Broadway

the U.S. Department of Homeland Security that handles immigration benefits. More information can be found at www.uscis.gov/cnmi or by calling (800) 375-5283. (*USCIS*)

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 <p>2010 Ford Escape XLS STOCK # AKA41085 \$18,995⁰⁰</p>	 <p>2008 Ford Ranger Sport 4x4 STOCK # 8PA43917 \$21,995⁰⁰</p>	 <p>2010 Nissan Xterra S 4WD STOCK # AC510719 \$24,995⁰⁰</p>
 <p>2006 Honda Civic DX STOCK # 6L012086 \$11,995^{00*}</p>	 <p>2008 Mazda RX8 STOCK # 80214167 \$16,995^{00*}</p>	 <p>2007 Ford Fusion SEL STOCK # 7R100604 \$14,995^{00*}</p>
 <p>2007 Honda Civic DX STOCK # 7L043414 \$11,995^{00*}</p>	 <p>2009 Nissan Altima S STOCK # 9C188438 \$18,995^{00*}</p>	 <p>2008 Kia Sedona LX STOCK # 86261071 \$16,995^{00*}</p>
 <p>2009 Nissan Xterra S STOCK # 9C509155 \$18,995^{00*}</p>	 <p>2009 Honda Civic SI STOCK # 9H704539 \$21,995^{00*}</p>	 <p>2008 Nissan Quest S STOCK # 8N111101 \$18,995^{00*}</p>
 <p>Claudia T. Adriano Sales Consultant Visit or call 234-5562 Ext.123</p>	 <p>2011 Nissan Altima S Coupe STOCK # BC100556 \$27,995^{00*}</p>	 <p>2011 Nissan Frontier Pro 4x STOCK # BC428757 \$32,995^{00*}</p>

YAMAHA INVENTORY CLEARANCE

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 <p>Yamaha 40HP \$5,495.00</p>	 <p>Yamaha 25HP \$3,295.00</p>
 <p>Yamaha 15HP \$1,895.00</p>	 <p>Yamaha YZ125 \$3,995.00</p>

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FOUR PROCLAMATIONS

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Division of Environmental Quality director Frank Rabauliman join DEQ employees for a group photo after Wednesday morning's signing of a proclamation declaring April 2012 Environmental Awareness Month and April 22 CNMI Earth Day. Inos signed three other proclamations declaring April 2012 Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month, and Early Childhood Month.

NMC to create Apprenticeship Advisory Board

As part of its efforts to grow its apprenticeship program, the Northern Marianas College announced Wednesday that it is developing an Apprenticeship Advisory Board.

The duties of the board will include, but not limited to: 1) determining apprenticeship areas and the shop facilities available for the necessary experience for on the job training; 2) establishing minimum standards of education and experience for apprentices and pass on the qualifications of applicants for apprenticeship; 3) determining the quality and quantity of on-the-job experience, which the apprentice must have; and, 4) evaluating apprentices' previous experience and training and recommend credit to be granted toward apprenticeship.

According to NMC president Sharon Y. Hart, the college has already laid a framework to

implement the U.S. Apprenticeship program, integrating apprenticeship and work force development, maximizing and leveraging resources, strengthening linkages with workforce investment and educational systems to increase the quality programs.

"We anticipate that the full launch of the apprenticeship program at NMC will provide a helpful boost to the local economy by focusing on jobs expected to be lost due to the departure of contract workers," Hart added.

Advantages of the NMC Apprenticeship Program:

- Apprenticeship is immediate employment, including wages, for U.S. citizens or those with permanent residency status.

- Apprenticeship is certified by the U.S. Department of Labor. With approximately 1,000 apprenticeship occupations available, NMC is able to place

an apprentice where the skill is most needed within the CNMI workforce.

- The CNMI Workforce Investment Agency will be referring registered participants whose occupational goals are aligned with apprenticeship. WIA will also be instrumental in leveraging subsidized wages (WEP or OJT) for apprentice.

- Apprentices gain work credentials/certifications that are nationally recognized upon completion. These are recognized in all 50 states, territories, and some foreign countries.

- Apprenticeship will be made available to all individuals across the CNMI, including Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the Outer Islands.

- High school students, over the age of 16, who meet the requirements for entry, can become apprentices.

- Apprenticeship programs

vary in length from one to five years, and NMC will be able to offer credit for experience in the field.

- Apprenticeship requires knowledge as well as skill. Part of the apprenticeship program includes the educational component. Many professions require extensive math skills, i.e. electronics, electricians, computer repair technicians, etc. NMC has the ability to address these needs.

- NMC will assist sponsors to facilitate and enroll CNMI prior service and active reserve military personnel to avail themselves of military apprenticeship benefits. Any military personnel can contact the college for more information, let us know your interests and we can place you in that field.

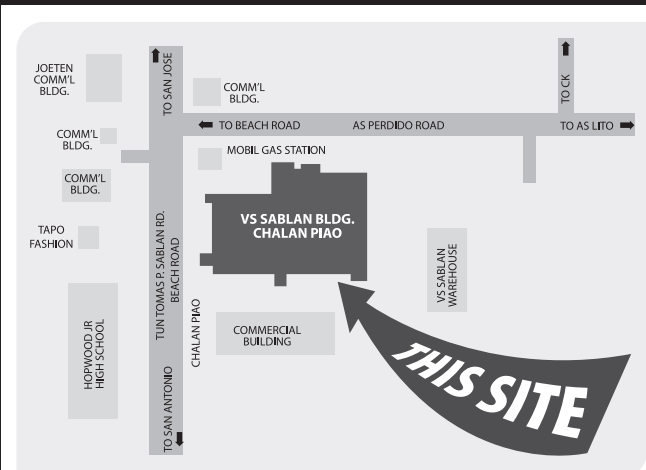
- Apprentices can move ahead at their own pace, depending on their prior training, ability to master the task, and motivation to progress.

- The main advantage of the apprenticeship program at NMC is that the program is industry driven, is flexible, and nationally recognized with portable credentials.

Members of the business community are asked to communicate their workforce needs to the college so the institution can facilitate and implement the program at their job sites.

Those who are interested in serving on the Apprenticeship Advisory Board, or have questions about the U.S. Apprenticeship program are asked to contact Geri Willis, director, 234-5498 Ext. 1028, cell no. 287-2004, or email her at geriw@nmcnet.edu. (NMC)

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5 new classrooms at GES to be ready next school year

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite the expected completion of five new classrooms next month, Garapan Elementary School students won't be able to use the new rooms until next school year or in September 2012, according to principal Paulette Sablan.

Estimated to accommodate up to 28 students per classroom, Sablan said upper graders were chosen to occupy the newly built classrooms.

For many years, GES' kindergarten students have been hold-

ing classes in the vacant MIHA housing units at the back of the school—a setup that has been criticized because of security concerns for students. Just last Monday, one of the kindergarten rooms was burglarized and valuable school materials and equipment were stolen.

Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* that everyone is looking forward to the next school year as GES will finally experience “one school, one campus” for all its students. The new facility will also help then find a suitable place for the school's bilingual programs.

Sablan said the five new classrooms were built atop an existing building on campus. Once completed, upper graders occupying the first floor classrooms would be moved to the new rooms on the second floor, while kindergarten students will take over the building's first floor.

The cost of the project is estimated at over \$800,000, which came from two funding sources: legislative appropriation and interest income from the \$15-million general obligation bond issued in 1998.

GES is PSS' largest elemen-

tary school and has experienced perennial overcrowd-

ing. Sablan believes that having five more classrooms

will help solve this problem.

The five new rooms will boost GES' classroom count to 37. It has over 800 enrollees every year.

Get your plate in shape!

On Saturday, March 31, 2012, student chefs from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota will compete in a cook-off that has been months in the making.

At 9 am, student chefs will serve their recipe to a panel of judges including food experts and health professionals.

The public is welcome to come and join us at PIC Ironwoods Lawn to taste the student creations as soon judging

is complete.

Recipes must include local fruits and vegetables and have been verified to ensure that they are moderate in sodium, fat, and added sugar.

The event is sponsored by PSS Food and Nutrition Services and the National Nutrition Month Planning committee, including NMC CREES, Commonwealth Cancer Association, CNMI Division of Public

Health, Pacific Wellness Center, Hardt Eye Clinic, CNMI WIC, and Marianas Health.

The Student Healthy Recipe Contest Cook-off is the final activity for National Nutrition Month. This year's theme is “Get Your Plate in Shape,” which focuses on promoting USDA's My Plate healthy eating plan, which replaced the USDA Food Guide Pyramid last year.

For more information contact Dianne Esplin at PSS-Food and Nutrition Services at 664-3901. **(PR)**



IMPORTANCE OF TOURISM

Saipan Southern High School student leaders share with the Marianas Tourism Education Council and the Marianas Visitors Authority about their involvement with tourism over the last year. MTEC and the MVA visited the school on March 19, 2012, to promote awareness on the importance of the visitor industry in the Northern Marianas.

MVA

CRIME OF THE WEEK

Garapan school burglarized

Crime Stoppers is seeking the community's assistance for information on a burglary and theft incident that occurred at Garapan Elementary School.

On Sunday, March 25, 2012, at about 7am, a security guard discovered the metal louvers to one of the fifth grade classrooms removed and the window tampered with. Computer equipment was stolen from the classroom. The stolen items include a white iMac Apple desktop computer, three silver iMac desktop computers, and a white Epson LCD projector. The stolen items are estimated to be worth over \$7,000.

On Monday, March 26, 2012, at about 7:30am, a kindergarten teacher found her classroom (M-39) door open. The back door to the classroom had its doorknob broken (possible point of entry). The stolen items include a silver iMac Apple desktop computer, a white HP Laser printer, three personal old model type laptops, several surge protectors, a VHS player, a broken TV (model unknown), and a number of schoolbooks, pens, and other school supplies. The amount stolen is estimated at over \$3,000.

DPS and Crime Stoppers need your help. Please contact

the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net Crime stoppers pays up to \$1,000.00 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. **(Crime Stoppers)**

HONOR ROLL

The Saipan Community School Honor Roll list for the 3rd Quarter:

6TH GRADE:

- “B” honor roll 3.00-3.49
- Joo Young Kim
 - Jae Hyun Park
 - Nathanael Lim
 - Rachel Kim

7TH GRADE:

- “A” honor roll 3.50-3.99
- Kevin Lee
 - Yu Bin Park
 - Carl Dela Cruz

- “B” honor roll 3.00-3.49
- Shirley Qian
 - Stephanie Lee

8TH GRADE:

- “A” honor roll 3.50-3.99
- Mary Grace Tigla
 - Jason Lee
- “B” honor roll 3.00-3.49
- Quitin Ramsey
 - Ji Hoon Lee
 - Jameson Kui Lee
 - Jun Pyo Jeon

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy birthday greetings go out to Brianna Paraiso, who is celebrating her third birthday today, March 30, 2012! May your birthday be filled with sunshine and smiles, laughter, love, and cheer. Greetings come from your family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Belated happy birthday to Emily Vargas, who just celebrated her birthday yesterday, March 29. We wish you all the happiness in life, keep being healthy, and may you have more birthdays to come! Greetings come from your friends at Hotel Sun Palace and Makeover Beauty Salon.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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American Samoa hospital to pay more than \$628K in back wages

HONOLULU—The American Samoa Medical Center Authority has agreed to pay \$628,115 in back wages to 481 employees after an investigation by the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division found that the LBJ Tropical Medical Center in Pago Pago, American Samoa, violated the overtime, minimum wage and record-keeping provisions of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

"Employers must properly track and pay employees for actual hours worked to ensure that they are paid the minimum and overtime wages required under the FLSA," said Terence Trotter, director of the Wage and Hour Division's Honolulu District Office, which conducted

the investigation. "This case should put other employers on notice and encourage them to ensure that record keeping and payrolls accurately reflect hours worked so that their employees are properly compensated."

The Wage and Hour Division determined that the employer failed to pay employees \$589,622 in overtime wages and \$38,493 in minimum wages for hours worked outside of their scheduled shifts, including through meal breaks, disregarding actual start and end times recorded by a time clock.

Affected employees include certified nursing assistants, licensed practical nurses, housekeepers and food service assistants, among others. LBJ Tropical Medical Center is the

only hospital in American Samoa and has one of the territory's largest workforces, with approximately 680 employees. In addition to paying the back wages owed, the employer has agreed to comply with the FLSA in the future.

Minimum wage rates in American Samoa are set for particular industries. The FLSA currently requires that government sector employees in American Samoa be paid at least \$4.41 per hour for all hours worked, plus time and one-half their regular rates for hours worked beyond 40 per week. Annual minimum wage increases of \$.50 per hour in American Samoa will recommence on Sept. 30, 2012. The increases will continue until all rates in all industries have

reached the federal minimum of \$7.25 per hour. To view a list of the various minimum wages for industries in American Samoa, visit <http://www.dol.gov/whd/minwage/americanSamoa/ASminwage.htm>. Additionally, the FLSA requires employers to maintain accurate time and payroll records.

The Labor Department has a smartphone application to help employees independently track the hours they work and determine the wages they are owed. Available in English and Spanish, users conveniently can track regular work hours, break time and any overtime hours for one or more employers. This new technology is significant because, instead of relying on their employers' records, work-

ers now can keep their own records. This and other Labor Department apps are available at <http://www.dol.gov/dol/apps>.

For more information about the FLSA, employers and employees in American Samoa

can call the Wage and Hour Division's toll-free helpline at 866-4US-WAGE (487-9243) or its Honolulu office at 808-541-1361. Information also is available at <http://www.dol.gov/whd>. (USDOL)

CULTURAL CENTER ACTIVITIES

The Rota Chamorro Village Cultural Center is offering free lessons to Chamorros and Carolinians on Carolinian dance, bead making, and *putut*. The lesson will be from 1pm to 4pm at the DCCA compound tomorrow, March 31, 2012.

On Tinian, the Tinian Chamorro-Carolinian Cultural Center is offering free lessons to Chamorros and Carolinians on making *alâguan*, basket weaving and *laboriu* this Saturday at the Tinian Senior Citizen Center Pavilion. The lessons will start at 9am. Bring your children so they, too, can learn the traditional ways of the Chamorros and Carolinians.

On Saipan, the Chamorro-Carolinian Village Cultural Centers Headquarters is offering free lessons to Chamorros and Carolinians on making *kkol*

(pounded breadfruit), *finadeni*, *dinanchi*, and *pandanus* weaving this Saturday. The lessons start at 9:30am and are held at the Saipan Chamorro-Carolinian Village Cultural Centers Headquarters at 1213 Capitol Hill Road, across the Workforce Investment Agency and next to the Board of Parole Office.

All these activities are offered by the Association of Native Medicine and Culture, in partnership with the Community and Cultural Affairs Office (Rota and Tinian), and the Indigenous Affairs Office (Saipan), and funded in part by the Administration for Native Americans. For more information, call 532-9350 on Rota and ask for Beck Kani; 433-9220 on Tinian and ask for Raymond Sablan; or 322-0278 on Saipan. (PR)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Kagman High School calendar of events

- April 2: Final Exam. Half-day schedule. Students will be dismissed at 1pm
- April 3: Final Exam. Half-day schedule. Student will be dismissed at 1pm
- April 4: Make-Up Day. Regular schedule. Student dismissal at 2:50pm. End of 3rd Quarter
- April 5-9: Spring break, no classes
- April 10: Classes resume (regular schedule); Add and drop day.
- April 11-12: Star Reading/Math Assessment

For more information, call the KHS main office at 664-3780-85 or e-mail: kagmanhs@gmail.com. (KHS)

CCA board to meet on April

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its monthly meeting on April 3, 2012, Tuesday, at 8am in the CCA conference room in Gualo Rai. The agenda includes reports from the president, steering committees, program manager, MMAC 2012, and program and project updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email us at cca@ccamarianas.org. (CCA)

Casino initiative on Marianas Agupa

Tomorrow, March 31, 2012, *Marianas Agupa* will feature Rep. Stanley Torres who talk about the casino initiative and ongoing signature drive. Torres will go on from 10am to 10:30am on Magic 100.3 FM. The radio show itself is from 9am to 11am. Listeners on Saipan, Tinian and Rota and those listening via Internet streaming are encouraged to call in and ask questions during the show. Direct calls to studio at 234-5929 or use Marianas Agupa's Facebook account via instant messaging.

The Chamorro radio talk show program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona. It also features reports by former mayor Joseph S. Inos, Rota correspondent Thomas D. Mendiola, and Tinian commentator David M. Cing, in addition to a special segment called Hafa Mohon with Juanita Mendiola. Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. (PR)

Lost dog

Snow White, a small white Maltese dog, is missing from Garapan. She was last seen on Tuesday afternoon near 747 Restaurant in Garapan. A \$100 reward is being offered for her safe return. Please contact Eden Villagomez for information at (670) 789-8621. (PR)

Found dog

A female adult Golden Retriever has been found in the Papago area. She's seems to be in good health other than being dehydrated and skinny. If this is your dog or you know whose dog she might be, please contact Sandy Weaver at 989-2502. (PR)

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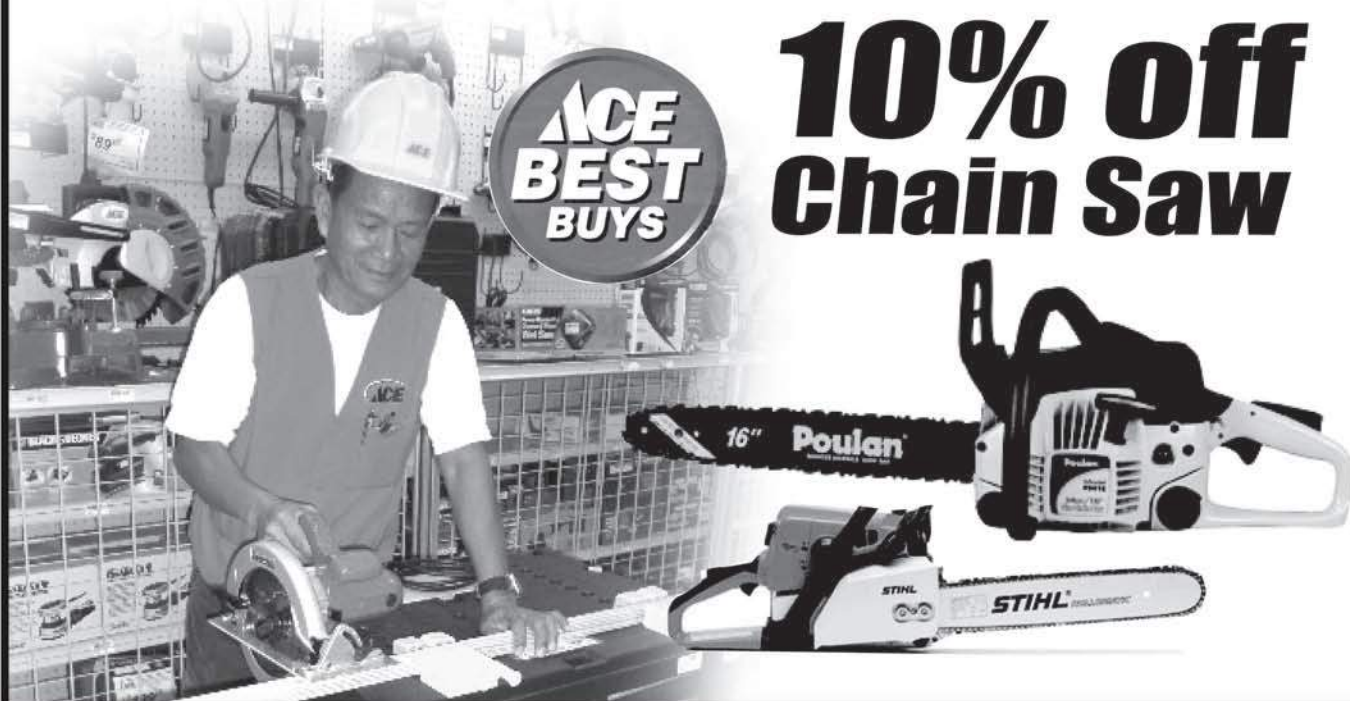
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EARLY BIRD SALE

Saturday, March 31, 2012

10% off Chain Saw



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HOUR
THE HOUR

Tan Holdings is joining the rest of the world this coming

Saturday, March 31, 2012 at 8:30pm – 9:30pm
in the observance of Earth Hour.

By simply switching off your lights or turning off non-essential lights and appliances in your home, buildings and facilities for one hour, we can make a great contribution to this global pursuit of ongoing environmental change.

We encourage you to make these 60 minutes a meaningful event with your family, your neighbors or your customers and co-workers. This experience without light is not only a symbolic act of our commitment to save the planet. It is also a strong reminder that every day, every hour in our normal lives we can turn off the lights we don't need and disconnect those appliances when we're not using them.

In line with our Going Green program we are encouraging everyone to send their stories and pictures on how they spent Earth Hour to: goinggreen@tanholdings.com. Selected photos and stories will be featured at our We Care Bulletin and the senders will receive tokens of appreciation from the company.

So on Saturday, let's once again acknowledge our continuing commitment to actions that benefit the planet not only for one hour but in the years ahead!

Your support is very important and will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much and have a great Earth Hour weekend!

Tan Holdings Going Green Team

Please visit our Earth Hour page at: <http://www.tanholdings.com/environment>



Cameron piloting plans for a 3-D film about Marianas Trench dive

LOS ANGELES (AP)—James Cameron will be one of the stars of his next big-screen adventure, a chronicle of the expedition on which he has made record-setting ocean dives.

Cameron said he plans a TV special for National Geographic and a 3-D theatrical release on the Deepsea Challenger missions, which included his seven-mile descent to the ocean's deepest point in the Marianas Trench in the western Pacific. It was the deepest solo dive ever, surpassing the five-mile descent he made a few weeks earlier.

The film could be ready late this year or early next year, depending on how much addition-

al shooting he and his colleagues need to do, Cameron said in a telephone interview Tuesday night, after the premiere of a 3-D version of his 1997 blockbuster "Titanic," which sails into theaters next week.

"We're shooting the whole expedition as a 3-D film," Cameron said from London, where he had rushed for the "Titanic" screening after completing his dive Monday in the one-man sub Deepsea Challenger, which he helped design.

Much of the design effort focused on building small, lightweight digital 3-D cameras that could withstand ocean pressures of 16,000 pounds a square inch, Cam-

eron said.

They were a huge leap forward from the cameras he used to shoot his first 3-D film, the 2003 Titanic documentary "Ghosts of the Abyss."

"They're a tenth of the size and weight of the 3-D camera that I used to go down to Titanic depth," Cameron said. "We spent a fair bit of the development budget of the sub figuring out how we would be lighting it and how we would do 3-D photography at full ocean depth. We did tackle a lot of challenges, but always, the thinking was this expedition is going to get paid for by a film."

Cameron has been planning the expedition since



MARK THIESSEN/NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
Explorer and filmmaker James Cameron emerges from the hatch of Deepsea Challenger during testing of the submersible in Jervis Bay, south of Sydney, Australia.

2005, while he simultaneously worked on the 3-D conversion of "Titanic" and made "Avatar," the sci-fi blockbuster that displaced "Titanic" as the biggest modern blockbuster with \$2.8 billion worldwide.

"Titanic" co-star Bill Paxton, who dove with Cameron to the wreck of the ship for "Ghosts of the Abyss," said he had nervously followed accounts of the filmmaker's dive and that his first words when seeing him before Tuesday's premiere were, "Godspeed, Jim Cameron."

"I was very apprehensive and so anxious to hear that he was OK," Paxton said. "I've been two and a half miles down at the wreck of the Titanic with him. That's one thing. But seven miles, that's like going to the moon. In a one-man sub that's only been tested to a certain depth. ... Here's a guy who bets his life on the technology he makes. I've been very lucky to have a front-row seat to one of the most remarkable careers in Hollywood and beyond."

Cameron's dive was the first in 52 years to a section of the trench known as Challenger Deep. The only other manned dive there was done in 1960 by U.S. Navy Capt. Don Walsh and Swiss engi-

neer Jacques Piccard.

The documentary will include a dramatized re-creation of Piccard and Walsh's dive, Cameron said.

Walsh came along with the surface crew on Cameron's dive and was waiting on the ship when the filmmaker returned. Cameron's three-hour-plus time at the bottom far eclipsed the 20 minutes Walsh and Piccard spent there, but Cameron said it's unclear if he actually descended to a lower depth.

Walsh "was kind of smiling. I kind of felt like he was ready to pass the baton," Cameron said. "He said, 'I'm happy to concede my record.' I said, 'You don't have to concede any record. The instruments were so imprecise, we'll never know how deep you were, and we don't even know exactly how deep I was.'"

"There's no way of measuring it super-accurately. You can bounce a laser off the moon and know within a couple of centimeters how far away the moon is, but you'll never know how deep the ocean is, because you're measuring waves, the sound through seawater, the changes in temperature and salinity. The error margin is tens of meters. I said, 'Let's just share it.' We shook on that."

Power outage in Garapan on Sat.

There will be a one-hour power outage on Saturday, March 31, 2012, from 5:30am through 6:30am, affecting Garapan Beach Road from Tony Roma's Restaurant through Kristo Rai Church, and Kadena Pl. to Mapola St., according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

The purpose of the interruption is to de-energize the primary lines to provide safety for line crew as they connect the recently installed air break switch in front of the Garapan Elementary School. The

ABS will provide linemen the ability to isolate problematic areas on feeder 1 and 2. The ABS will also provide the ability to parallel the two feeder circuits thus minimizing the number of customers inconvenienced during future repairs or maintenance on the electrical grid.

Because of the scale of the work that will be performed, travelers are asked to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the affected areas. (CUC)

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Health Fair Participants

- Ayuda Network, Department of Public Health, Commonwealth Cancer Association, NMC Nursing Students, Marianas Eye Institute, NMC CREES, Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, Domestic Violence Intervention Center, CUC, Coca Cola/Foremost Foods Saipan, Hardt Eye Clinic, DYS, OVR, HIV/STD Prevention Program.

Business

High court appears split by ideology over health care

WASHINGTON (AP)—Concluding three days of fervent, public disagreement, a Supreme Court seemingly split over ideology will now wrestle in private about whether to strike down key parts or even all of President Barack Obama’s historic health care law. The justices’ decision, due this June, will affect the way virtually every American receives and pays for care.

The court wrapped up public arguments Wednesday on the overhaul, which is designed to extend health insurance to most of the 50 million Americans now without it. The first and biggest issue the justices must decide is whether the centerpiece of the law, the requirement that nearly all Americans carry insurance or pay a penalty, is constitutional.

Wednesday’s argument time was unusual in that it assumed a negative answer to that central question. What should happen to other provisions, the justices and lawyers debated, if the court strikes down the requirement? If the justices are following their normal practice, they had not even met to take a preliminary vote in the case before all argument concluded.

Questions at the court this week days showed a strong ideological division between the liberal justices who seem inclined to uphold the law in its entirety and the conservative justices whose skepticism about Congress’ power to force people to buy insurance suggests deep trouble for the insurance requirement, and possibly the

entire law.

The divide on the court reflects a similar split in public opinion about the law, which Congress approved two years ago when Democrats controlled both houses. The justices’ decision is sure to become a significant part of this year’s presidential and congressional election campaigns, in which Republicans have relentlessly attacked the law.

Both liberal and conservative justices appeared on Wednesday to accept the administration’s argument that at least two important insurance changes are so closely tied to the must-have-coverage requirement that they could not survive without it: provisions requiring insurers to cover people regardless of their existing medical problems and limiting

how much those companies can charge in premiums based on a person’s age or health.

Less clear was whether the court would conclude the entire law, with its hundreds of unrelated provisions, would have to be cast aside.

The justices also spent part of the day considering a challenge by 26 states to the expansion of the federal-state Medicaid program for low-income Americans—an important feature which alone was expected to extend coverage to 15 million people and which no lower court has rejected.

Audio of Wednesday morning’s argument can be found at: <http://apne.ws/GX1p23> ; the afternoon argument at: <http://apne.ws/GXdZOP> .

Nike sues Reebok in NYC over Tebow apparel

NEW YORK (AP)—Nike went to court Wednesday to prove that Reebok is no shoo-in to promote New York Jets quarterback Tim Tebow on apparel.

Nike Inc. claimed in a lawsuit in U.S. District Court that Reebok International Ltd. has used Tebow’s name on Jets-related apparel without permission since it was announced last week that Tebow was traded from the Denver Broncos to New York. The Tebow trade occurred just before Nike replaces Reebok on Sunday as the supplier of NFL team uniforms.

Oregon-based Nike spokeswoman Mary Remuzzi said early Thursday that a temporary restraining order blocking further sales of the merchandise by Reebok was issued on Wednesday.

The lawsuit, which seeks un-

specified damages, claims that Reebok misappropriated publicity rights, interfered with business relationships and unjustly enriched itself because it failed to get Tebow’s permission before launching the new products.

Reebok, based in Canton, Mass., did not immediately respond to a request seeking comment on the restraining order. The lawsuit said Reebok did not respond to demands to cease Tebow apparel sales after a Tebow representative sent a letter to the company on Friday.

Reebok is a subsidiary of Adidas AG.

According to the lawsuit, new Nike-supplied uniforms for all 32 NFL teams will be unveiled next week in New York City, kicking off a five-year deal for Nike to be the league’s exclusive provider of

on-field apparel, including game uniforms and sideline apparel. Reebok had been the supplier for the last decade.

The lawsuit said demands for Tebow-related Jets apparel was intense last week during a normally subdued time for NFL merchandise sales.

It said Nike, based in Beaverton, Ore., believes Reebok was shipping large volumes of Tebow-related apparel products to retailers for sale to the public this week, damaging Nike’s ability to capitalize on a “unique and short-lived opportunity.”

The lawsuit added that it was unlikely that a consumer who buys an unauthorized Tebow jersey or T-shirt from Reebok this week will purchase an authorized Tebow item from Nike next week.

Australia: No probe into News Corp. piracy claims

SYDNEY (AP)—Australian officials said Thursday they are not investigating a newspaper’s claims that Rupert Murdoch’s embattled News Corp. was involved in a piracy-promoting plot aimed at crippling its competitors.

News Limited, the Australian arm of News Corp., has denied the allegations contained in Wednesday’s report by the Australian Financial Review, which accused the company of using a secret security unit to sabotage competitors by encouraging piracy of its satellite TV rivals in the 1990s.

“If there’s any evidence of that, then the Australian Financial Review should put it to the federal police, but we have not made a reference, the police have not received a reference,” Australian Communications

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Oil near \$105 amid possible reserves release

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil hovered above \$105 a barrel Thursday in Asia, capped by the possible release of crude reserves by Western nations. Benchmark oil for May delivery was down 3 cents to \$105.38 at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell \$1.92 to settle at \$105.41 per barrel in New York on Wednesday. Brent crude for May delivery was steady at \$124.16 per barrel in London.

CNOOC 2011 profit up 29 percent on oil sales

BEIJING (AP)—CNOOC Ltd., one of China’s three major state-owned oil producers, said Thursday its 2011 profit rose 29.1 percent on higher oil and gas sales. Profit rose to 70.3 billion yuan (\$11.3 billion), or 1.59 yuan (26 U.S. cents) per share, on a 29.5 percent increase in oil and gas sales to 189.3 billion yuan (\$30.5 billion), the Beijing-based company reported. CNOOC, China’s main offshore oil and gas producer, has benefited from its focus on production rather than retail sales.

Minister Stephen Conroy said Thursday, shooting down reports that the government had called for an investigation.

A federal police spokeswoman confirmed the agency had not launched a probe into the claims.

The latest accusations against News Corp. comes amid a phone hacking scandal in Britain that led to the collapse of the company’s News of the World tabloid newspaper.

The Financial Review—which is owned by Fairfax, News Limited’s main competitor in Australia—said in its report that a News Corp. subsidiary called NDS Group set up a secret security unit in the 1990s to combat piracy against its own pay-TV companies. But the paper claims the group ended up encouraging hackers to pi-


rate the programming of News Corp.’s satellite TV competitors, costing those companies tens of millions of dollars.

News Corp. owns 25 percent of Foxtel, Australia’s largest pay-TV provider, which is currently looking to buy its rival Austar.


The paper said it spent four years investigating the alleged scheme and had uncovered more than 14,000 internal emails that back up its claims.

In a statement, News Limited said the newspaper’s report was “full of factual inaccuracies, flawed references, fanciful conclusions and baseless accusations.”

NDS Group, which has faced similar piracy accusations in other countries, also rejected the story, and said the same allegations had already been shot down by a U.S. court.



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>



**NOTICE OF SALE
UNDER POWER OF SALE
IN DEED OF TRUST**

Anthony Francis A. Benavente and Arlene Tina Lee Benavente (collectively "Trustor"), on or about April 11, 2006, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on April 12, 2006, under Document No. 06-895 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 011 G 1155, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 900 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON DLS CHECK NO. 011 G. 23, DATED DECEMBER 09, 1993, RECORDED AT THE COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S OFFICE AS FILE NO. 96-2566 ON OCTOBER 10, 1996 THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on November 3, 2011. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **April 17, 2012**, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **\$49,007.87**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Merced M. Tomokane, Chairperson of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **April 16, 2012, at 4:00 p.m.** **All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than April 16, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to NMHC.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The further right is reserved, in the absence of satisfactory bids for the outright sale of the said parcel of real property to a qualified buyer, to offer such property at the same time and place, or at a later time, for long-term lease to any person on the usual terms and conditions for long term leases of real property offered by the Trustee to the highest bidder for such lease. The minimum bid amount of **\$49,007.87** shall also apply with lump sum payment for the term of the lease.

The lease shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the lease price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. All lease payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer/lessee of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's/lessee's rights, title, and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to NMHC.

Dated this 14th day of March, 2012.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Acting Corporate Director



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>

**NOTICE OF SALE
UNDER POWER OF SALE
IN DEED OF TRUST**

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport
TRASH COLLECTION SERVICES
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-001-12****INVITATION FOR BIDS**

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

March 19, 2012
Date

Nation

JetBlue captain grew increasingly erratic on plane

RICHMOND HILL, Ga. (AP)—JetBlue Airways captain Clayton Osbon showed up unusually late to fly Flight 191 to Las Vegas. The plane was in mid-air when he eerily told his co-pilot they wouldn't make it there.

Osbon started rambling about religion. He scolded air traffic controllers to quiet down, then turned off the radios altogether, and dimmed the monitors in the cockpit. He said aloud that "things just don't matter" and encouraged his co-pilot that they take a leap of faith.

"We're not going to Vegas," Osbon said.

What unfolded next, according to court documents released Wednesday, was a dramatic chase and struggle in the cabin that ended with passengers tackling Osbon, 49, and holding him down until the co-pilot could make an emergency landing in Amarillo, Texas. He was charged Wednesday with interfering with a flight crew.

A pilot with JetBlue since



AP
Emergency workers tend to a JetBlue captain that had a "medical situation" during a Las Vegas-bound flight from JFK International airport, Tuesday, March 27, 2012, in Amarillo, Texas.

2000, Osbon's odd behavior on Tuesday became increasingly erratic after the flight departed New York, worrying his fellow crew members so much that they locked him out after he abruptly left the cockpit, according to an affidavit. Osbon then started yelling about Jesus,

Romney edges into mop-up phase of campaign

WASHINGTON (AP)—After a three-month struggle, Mitt Romney edged into the mop-up phase of the race for the Republican presidential nomination on Wednesday, buoyed by Newt Gingrich's decision to scale back his campaign to the vanishing point and Rick Santorum's statement that he would take the No. 2 spot on the party ticket in the fall.

Romney campaigned by phone for support in next week's Wisconsin primary while he shuttled from California to Texas on a fundraising trip, praising Gov. Scott Walker, for "trying to rein in the excesses that have permeated the public services union." The governor faces a recall election in June after winning passage of state legislation vehemently opposed by organized labor.

al-Qaida and a possible bomb on board, forcing passengers to tie him up with seat belt extenders and zip tie handcuffs for about 20 minutes until the plane landed.

"The (first officer) became really worried when Osbon said 'we need to take a leap of

faith,'" according to the sworn affidavit given by FBI agent John Whitworth. "Osbon started trying to correlate completely unrelated numbers like different radio frequencies, and he talked about sins in Las Vegas."

Osbon left the cockpit soon after and tensions on the plane

began to escalate, according to witness accounts compiled by investigators. Osbon, described by neighbors in Georgia as tall and muscular, "aggressively" grabbed the hands of a flight attendant who confronted him and later sprinted down the cabin while being chased.


ACROSS THE NATION

Plow driver, wife charged in Vt. teacher's death

ST. JOHNSBURY, Vt. (AP)—A Vermont snowplow driver who wanted to "get a girl" was accused Wednesday along with his wife of luring a popular prep school teacher from her home by pretending their vehicle had broken down, beating and strangling her, stripping her body naked and throwing it into the Connecticut River. Allen Prue, 30, and Patricia Prue, 33, of Waterford, pleaded not guilty to second-degree murder in the death of Melissa Jenkins, whose SUV was found idling along a remote road near her St. Johnsbury home on Sunday with her unharmed 2-year-old inside. Police said Allen Prue was riding around on Sunday with his wife when he got the idea "to get a girl," the affidavit said. "They didn't plan to get one forcefully," the police affidavit said.

Body of 4-year-old Arkansas boy found in river

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)—Searchers found the body of a 4-year-old boy Wednesday in the river at an Arkansas Boy Scout camp where he was tagging along with his aunt last weekend. A search team in a canoe spotted Caleb Linn's body in a tributary of the Spring River, according to the Fulton County Sheriff's office. Caleb went missing Saturday at the 900-acre Kia Kima Scout Reservation near Hardy, Ark. Searchers in boats and on horseback, foot and four-wheelers scoured the valley for days before finding two shirts he had been wearing in the river on Tuesday afternoon. His body was found less than 24 hours later.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

INVITATION TO BID
ITB12-GOV-058
Phase III, Hardening and Renovation of the Juan A. Sablan Administration Building – Office of the Attorney General, Capitol Hill Saipan

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lieutenant Governor Eloy S. Inos, are soliciting sealed bids for the **Hardening and Renovations of the Juan A. Sablan Administration Building – Office of the Attorney General, Capitol Hill Saipan**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

The project package will be available Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at the Governor's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A \$25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a **mandatory pre-bid Conference/Site Visit** for this project on Wednesday, April 4, 2012, 9:00AM ChST at the project site, Capitol Hill, Saipan. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST April 6, 2012 to Mr. Carl Castro, Project Coordinator, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408.

Sealed bids must be marked **"ITB12-GOV-058"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 AM ChST April 24, 2012. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 AM ChST April 24, 2012, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than April 24, 2012 and must be received no later than May 03, 2012 ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 AM ChST May 4, 2012. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 11:00 AM ChST April 24, 2012.


For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid bond of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must possess a certificate of authority to conduct business in the CNMI and certification that the value or its unencumbered assets (exclusive or all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the amount or each bond. Performance time for completion of this project is two hundred ten (210) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) two hundred dollars (\$200.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by two hundred ten (210) calendar days, the contract time and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.


All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Lieutenant Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>



AUCTION NOTICES

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

LOT NO.:	003 D 16	ADETFA ST., GARAPAN	MINIMUM BID :	\$ 90,000.00
LOT NO.:	011 G 308	CHOPAK DRIVE, KAGMAN III	MINIMUM BID :	\$ 43,619.36
LOT NO.:	010 K 05	MAGICIENNE BAY AVE., DAN DAN	MINIMUM BID :	\$ 42,219.36
LOT NO.:	21899-2	PILA DRIVE SADO G TASI	MINIMUM BID :	\$ 32,419.36
LOT NO.:	002 G 263	ATES DRIVE KAGMAN II	MINIMUM BID :	\$ 57,619.36
LOT NO.:	011 G 842	GAGU STR. KAGMAN	MINIMUM BID :	\$ 61,619.36
LOT NO.:	001 C 57	MORTAR LANE SAN ROQUE	MINIMUM BID :	\$ 68,230.00
LOT NO.:	003 B 16	CHAMOLINAN DRIVE, TANAPAG	MINIMUM BID :	\$ 48,519.36

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on April 17, 2012, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid. The minimum acceptable bid for each property shall be \$(please see above).
- Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Acting Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facsimile: 234-9021; or to Law Office of Vicente T. Salas, P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC.
- Change of Terms. NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.
- Lease with Option to Purchase. NMHC gives notice that it will also consider bids or offers to lease the property, subject to the following additional terms and conditions:
 - The Lease Price bid shall not be less than the listed Minimum Bid price.
 - An up-front payment of ten percent (10%) of the Lease Price must be paid upon award by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard).
 - The balance of the Lease Price shall accrue interest at six percent (6%) per annum.
 - Monthly payments of the Lease will be considered rental payments only and not installments toward purchase and shall not grant the lessee any equity or ownership interest in the property or be construed in any way to encumber NMHC's rights, title and interest in the property beyond the granting of a lease for a specific term of years.
 - Maximum acceptable Lease term shall be thirty (30) years.
 - A lease agreement will be given upon receipt of the up-front payment and shall include:
 - No alterations or improvements without the prior written consent of NMHC.
 - Lessee to insure property and improvements during the Lease term.
 - Lessee responsible for all utilities and other charges associated with the property.
 - Lease not to be assigned or mortgaged without prior written consent of NMHC.
 - Failure to make a monthly payment grounds for termination and eviction.
 - Lease may, at the request of lessee, contain an Option to Purchase provision exercisable upon: (A) payment in full of the Lease Price; (B) the Lease not having been declared to be in default; and (C) payment of \$100.00 option consideration. If the option is properly exercised, a quitclaim deed will be given.
 - In the event of competing lease bids, greater weight will be given to the leasehold offer with the better price, shorter term and larger monthly payments.

Dated this 14th day of March, 2012.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios, Acting Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

Asia

Prominent Pakistani acid victim commits suicide

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistani acid attack victim Fakhra Younus had endured more than three dozen surgeries over more than a decade to repair her severely damaged face and body when she finally decided life was no longer worth living.

The 33-year-old former dancing girl—who was allegedly attacked by her then-husband, an ex-lawmaker and son of a political powerhouse—jumped from the sixth floor of a building in Rome, where she had been living and receiving treatment.

Her March 17 suicide and the return of her body to Pakistan on Sunday reignited furor over the case, which received significant international attention at the time of the attack. Her death came less than a month after a Pakistani filmmaker won the country's first Oscar for a documentary about

acid attack victims.

Younus' story highlights the horrible mistreatment many women face in Pakistan's conservative, male-dominated culture and is a reminder that the country's rich and powerful often appear to operate with impunity. Younus' ex-husband, Bilal Khar, was eventually acquitted, but many believe he used his connections to escape the law's grip—a common occurrence in Pakistan.

More than 8,500 acid attacks, forced marriages and other forms of violence against women were reported in Pakistan in 2011, according to The Aurat Foundation, a women's rights organization. Because the group relied mostly on media reports, the figure is likely an undercount.

"The saddest part is that she

realized that the system in Pakistan was never going to provide her with relief or remedy," Nayyar Shabana Kiyani, an activist at The Aurat Foundation, said of Younus. "She was totally disappointed that there was no justice available to her."

Younus was a teenage dancing girl working in the red light district of the southern city of Karachi when she met her future husband, the son of Ghulam Mustafa Khar, a former governor of Pakistan's largest province, Punjab. The unusual pairing was the younger Khar's third marriage. He was in his mid-30s at the time.

The couple was married for three years, but Younus eventually left him because he allegedly physically and verbally abused her. She claimed that he came to her mother's house while she was sleeping in May 2000 and poured acid all over her in the presence of her 5-year-old son from a different man.

Tehmina Durrani, Ghulam Mustafa Khar's ex-wife and his son's stepmother, became an advocate for Younus after the attack, drawing international attention to the case. She said that Younus' injuries were the worst she had ever seen on an acid attack victim.

"So many times we thought she would die in the night because her nose was melted and she couldn't breathe," said Durrani, who wrote a book about her own allegedly abusive relationship with the elder Khar. "We used to put a straw in the little bit of her mouth that was left because the rest was all melted together."

She said Younus, whose life had always been hard, became a liability to her family, for whom she was once a source of income.

"Her life was a parched stretch of hard rock on which nothing bloomed," Durrani wrote in a column in The News after You-

nus' suicide.

Younus' ex-husband grew up in starkly different circumstances, amid the wealth and power of the country's feudal elite, and counts Pakistani Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar as a cousin.

Bilal Khar once again denied carrying out the acid attack in a TV interview following her suicide, suggesting a different man with the same name committed the crime. He claimed Younus killed herself because she didn't have enough money, not because of her horrific injuries, and criticized the media for hounding him about the issue.

Japan hangs 3 in first executions since 2010

TOKYO (AP)—Three death row inmates in Japan were executed by hanging on Thursday, the country's first executions in more than a year and a half.

The men were reportedly hanged in three different prisons. One was convicted of ramming a car into a train station and then knifing people nearby, killing five, in 1999. The second killed two people in 2001 and the third killed three in 2002.

Justice Minister Toshio Oga- wa confirmed the executions in a news conference, saying that the punishment is supported by the public. He did not provide details, and all major Japanese media quoted anonymous Justice Ministry officials for details on who was executed.

The executions were Japan's first since July 2010. Capital punishment is usually ordered only

for inmates convicted of multiple murders. Japan has 132 death row convicts, which is near its highest level since World War II.

Japan, along with the United States, is one of the few industrialized countries that still has capital punishment. All executions in Japan are carried out by hanging. Inmates on death row do not know when they will be executed until the last minute, while family members and lawyers are only told afterward.

The lack of transparency in the system has been criticized by rights groups such as Amnesty International and the main Japanese bar association. But capital punishment is generally supported by the public, according to opinion polls.

Public broadcaster NHK said 2011 was the first full year without any executions in 19 years.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Tibetan monk, 20, latest to self-immolate in China

BEIJING (AP)—A 20-year-old Tibetan monk in western China has become the latest to set himself on fire in protest against the authoritarian government, Tibetan exiles said Thursday. More than 30 people have self-immolated, or attempted to, over the past year in ethnic Tibetan areas of China to protest Beijing's heavy-handed rule. Activists say China's crackdown is so oppressive Tibetans have no other way to voice their protests. A monk named Sherab who studied at the Kirti monastery in Aba county set himself ablaze Wednesday, exiled Tibetan monks Kanyag Tsering and Losang Yeshe said in a statement.

Pakistan: Gunmen kill 6 people, 1 a UN employee

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—Gunmen killed six people in a pair of attacks in southwest Pakistan on Thursday, one of which targeted local employees of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, officials said. The gunmen opened fire on the U.N. staff as they were riding in a car through Baluchistan province's Mastung district, killing two people, said police officer Rustam Khan. The two killed included a member of the group's project staff and a hired driver, said a U.N. official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media. Another staff member was wounded, he said.

APARTMENT AND CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Promo Extended

Until April 30, 2012 (for 1 year contract)

GILL BLAS CONDOMINIUM

1-BEDROOM : REG PRICE - ~~\$650.00~~ **NOW \$500.00 ~**
2-BEDROOM : REG PRICE - ~~\$800.00~~ **NOW \$650.00 ~**
(Power and Water EXCLUDED)

LOCATION: Lower Miha, GARAPAN, where 747 Dining & Bar is situated

- AMENITIES:
- 24-hr water supply
 - Back-up generator
 - Common waste container
 - Furnished unit w/ balcony
 - Free moving-service
 - Laundry facility
 - On-duty security guard at night
 - On-site maintenance
 - Parking space
 - Swimming pool

PASTEL INN APARTMENT

STUDIO-TYPE : REG PRICE - ~~\$380.00~~ **NOW \$250.00 ~**
2-BEDROOM : REG PRICE - ~~\$550.00~~ **NOW \$400.00 ~**
(Power and Water EXCLUDED)

LOCATION: SAN JOSE, right next to Rosh's Store (along Beach Rd)

- AMENITIES:
- 24-hr water supply
 - Back-up generator
 - Common waste container
 - Furnished unit w/ balcony
 - Free moving-service
 - Laundry facility
 - On-site maintenance
 - Broad parking space (front area and backside)
 - Spacious yard
 - Swimming pool w/ BBQ area

ANAKS OCEAN VIEW HILL SAIPAN

AVAILABLE UNITS:
2-Bedroom and 3-Bedroom
PRICE depends upon the type of unit
(Power and Water EXCLUDED)

LOCATION: PUERTO RICO, close to Bank of Hawaii

- AMENITIES:
- 24-hr drinkable (Reverse Osmosis) water supply
 - Back-up generator
 - Common waste container
 - Furnished unit
 - Free moving-service
 - Parking space
 - Swimming pool
 - Tennis court
 - Washer and Dryer in the unit

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COMMERCIAL SPACE:
REG PRICE - ~~\$800.00~~ **NOW \$500.00 ~**
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LOCATION: GARAPAN Middle Road, where Pacific Quick Print is situated

- AREA: 760 sq ft per unit (2nd FLOOR ONLY)
- AMENITIES:
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 - Common waste container



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World

Destruction as Syrian forces take opposition town

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian activists said Wednesday a government offensive in northern Syria during which troops overran a major opposition stronghold has left behind scenes of destruction, with corpses in the streets, homes burned to the ground and shops that have been pillaged and looted.

The reports of 40 people dead in Saraqeb since Sunday come as Arab leaders meeting in Baghdad remain deeply divided over how to help solve Syria's yearlong crisis. President Bashar Assad said he has accepted a six-point U.N. plan to resolve the conflict, including a cease-fire, but the opposition is deeply skeptical that he will carry it out.



This image made from amateur video and released by Shaam News Network Tuesday, March 27, 2012, purports to show a Syrian helping a wounded man in Homs, Syria.

flare-ups in violence, reflecting the resiliency of the uprising and the military's inability to firmly put down the revolt.

Activists on Wednesday also reported clashes between Syrian army units and rebels in the country's center, east and south.

At least four civilians, four soldiers and five army defectors were killed in the central town of Qalaat al-Madiq and nearby villages, activists said, as troops advanced and closed in on rebels. The town, in Hama province, has been battered by heavy machine guns and artillery for days. Activists said the town's historic castle was not spared the shelling.

"People are fleeing their homes, many of them unsure which direction to take," said an activist in the area who identified himself as Ammar.

The military seized Saraqeb overnight after a four-day offensive that began Sunday. Rebel fighters had an active presence in the northern town and used it as a base to target army convoys nearby. In Saraqeb, as in other

towns and cities recaptured recently by the army, Syrian troops left behind a trail of death and destruction.

The Local Coordination Committees network issued an appeal for international humanitarian organizations to urgently visit the town and said there were many unidentified corpses and wounded people there.

"Regime forces have forcibly displaced a large number of activists' families, and burned and shelled approximately 300 homes. They also pillaged and set fire to most shops," the LCC said in a statement.

The British-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights confirmed the reports and said most of the town's residents had fled along with the rebels. It said more than 40 people had been killed during the fighting over recent days.

The reports by the groups and by other activists could not be independently confirmed. Video from Saraqeb posted on the Internet appeared to back claims of destruction and pillaging.

The fall of Saraqeb, a large town on the main highway linking the northern city of Aleppo with the Syrian capital, was the latest in a string of opposition strongholds to fall to ruthless assaults by the better-equipped Syrian military. Most of those strongholds and areas around them have since seen renewed

Arab summit appears divided over approach to Syria

BAGHDAD (AP)—Arab leaders gathering here Thursday will call for Syria to implement a cease-fire, but there's little faith that President Bashar Assad will do anything to halt his crack-down on the year-old uprising.

That could set the stage for Gulf Arab nations, eager to see Assad's downfall, to take stronger action on their own.

Arab governments are divided over how strongly to intervene to stop the bloodshed in Syria, and their divisions illustrate how the conflict has become a proxy in the region's wider rivalry—the one between Arabs and powerhouse Iran.

Sunni-led nations of the Gulf such as Saudi Arabia and Qatar—hoping to break Syria out of its alliance with Shiite Iran—

are believed to be considering arming the Syrian rebels to fight back against Assad's forces. But other Arab nations are reluctant to openly call for that step yet.

Iraq, the host of the one-day Arab League summit, is in a particularly tight spot because its Shiite-led government has close ties to Iran, Assad's top ally.

Given the divisions, foreign ministers meeting here Wednesday laid out a middle-ground for their leaders to issue at the summit. The draft resolution they put together would reject foreign intervention in Syria while voicing support for the Syrian people's "legitimate aspirations to freedom and democracy." It would call on Assad to implement a cease-fire and let in humanitarian aid, according to a

copy obtained by The Associated Press.

The leaders also "denounce the acts of violence, killings ... and remain committed to a peaceful settlement and national dialogue," it said.

It also supports the mission of joint U.N.-Arab League envoy Kofi Annan, who has put forward a peace plan to end the regime's crackdown that the U.N. estimates has killed more than 9,000 people since the uprising began in March 2011 as part of the Arab Spring.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari acknowledged to the media that the summit will offer "nothing new" on Syria, but will complement ongoing international diplomacy to settle the crisis.

Cuban-Americans find hope on return to homeland

HAVANA (AP)—Pope Benedict XVI's visit to Cuba drew nearly 300 Americans to the island they or their parents long ago fled. What they found was a country that was different from the one they had imagined, yet somehow still close to the place they had dreamed of.

Many had grown up in Miami, hearing bitter tales of loss about their exile parent's beloved homeland. They worried about being followed by police, about the hostility they might face, and about the changes 50 years of communist rule had wrought on the island.

Packed into shuttle buses on their four-day visit, they stole what time they could to mingle with ordinary Cubans, visiting neighborhoods, a few relatives and houses their families once

called home.

Astrid Brana, 39, grew up thinking that a visit to Cuba would be a demonstration of support for the government of Fidel and Raul Castro. She made a mental exception for this trip because it was to see the pope. But her father refused to come.

Chatting with Cubans Tuesday, she began to question the broader issue of travel to the island.

"I was talking about my father's opposition to the trip. This man, he stopped me real quick and said there are other ways to think," Brana recalled over dinner at a state-run restaurant.

"He said we were helping the government, but we are also helping the people put food on their tables," she said. "Now I have to go back and

talk to my father."

Brana and her mother, who left the island at age 16, said they were both surprised by the openness with which many Cubans spoke about their frustrations.

"I thought they weren't allowed to talk," Fabiola Brana said. "There was a minute when I wanted to say, 'Please, be quiet, for your own sake.'"

The trip was eye-opening in other ways for the women. Both were angered when security guards refused to let their Cuban relatives enter their hotel room, though paying Cuban customers are now allowed to frequent tourist hotels.

"The guards, they told us no, and they trailed us the whole time," Astrid Brana said. "It was like (my cousins) were the outsiders. But we are the outsiders."



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **RESTROOM REPAIRS AND WATER PUMP IMPROVEMENTS** at the **FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP 3-69-0002-62/65/67 (CPA-SA-002-09)**, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada / Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

All bids will be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Saipan International Airport Restroom Repairs and Water Pump Improvements, AIP 3-69-0002-62/65/67 (CPA-SA-002-09)" and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2012**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of two (2) groups: **Project 1** is existing restroom repair such as replacement of doors, plumbing fixtures, floor and wall tiles, ceilings, and all toilet accessories; mechanical fixtures; electrical fixtures; replacement of the existing hydro-pneumatic tank; mechanical rehabilitation and replacement of the existing water pump motor and controls, all in accordance with the Plans and Specifications, and **Project 2** is a Design-Build of Restroom 1 in accordance with the Design/Build Concept Plans and Specifications. Bidders are reminded that the Construction Management (CM) team is not available for design services for Project 2.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED SIXTY (360) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP-70-25 of the specifications.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

A CD-Rom containing the bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 AM, FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2012**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective bidders are required to attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rates established by CNMI Law or Federal Law, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

March 6, 2012
Date

Off The Wall



Greek police recover ancient statue hidden in goat corral

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Greek police recovered an ancient statue that was illegally excavated and hidden in a goat pen near Athens, and arrested the goat herder and another man who were allegedly trying to sell the work for 500,000 euros (\$667,000).

The marble statue of a young woman dates to about 520 B.C. and belongs to the kore type, a police statement said Wednesday. Police photos showed the 1.2-meter (4-foot) work to be largely intact, lacking the left forearm and plinth.

Although dozens of examples of the kore statue and its male equivalent, the kouros, are displayed in Greek and foreign museums, the type is considered very important in the development and understanding of Greek art. New discoveries in good condition are uncommon.

Archaeologists who inspected the find estimated its market value at 12 million euros (\$16 million), a police official said.

“They told us that this is a unique piece,” the official said on condition of anonymity because he wasn’t authorized to the speak to the media since the investigation is still ongoing.

Still bearing traces of soil, the statue has the hint of a smile on its lips, elaborately braided hair and an ankle-length gown.

Police said it had been concealed in a goat pen near the village of Fyli, in the foothills of Mount Parnitha on the northwestern fringes of Athens. The 40-year-old goat herder and another Greek man aged 56 were arrested.

Detectives are seeking to determine where the statue was excavated, which could potentially lead archaeologists to a previously unknown 6th cen-



A 2,500-year-old statue of a young woman that was illegally excavated and hidden in a goat pen near Athens is seen in this undated police handout photo released on Wednesday, March 28, 2012.

tury B.C. sanctuary or cemetery. The archaeological remains of civilizations stretching back thousands of years are spread all over Greece. By law, all antiquities are state property. But pillaging is a highly lucrative business.

The police official said the suspects arrested Tuesday had put out feelers to potential buyers in Greece, and “would have sold it for a relative pittance, (EURO)500,000, given its market value.”

In another major success two years ago, police in southern Greece recovered a pair of twin kouros statues, and arrested two suspected looters.

Dozens of illegally exported finds have been returned to Greece over the past few years, including masterpieces from the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles.

Beyonce the tiny puppy fit into spoon at birth

By MEGHAN BARR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP)—A very tiny puppy is sitting inside a coffee mug, trying without success to escape by scratching its little paws against the slippery surface. In recent days, this famous dog has been placed alongside a variety of small objects—an iPhone, a business card and

Beyonce, a Dachshund puppy vying for the title of World’s Smallest Dog, is fed in a coffee cup, during an interview on Wednesday, March 28, 2012 in New York.

AP

a tape measure, among other things—to demonstrate just how tiny she really is.

This is Beyonce, a female dachshund mix who was born March 8 to a rescue dog that was found abandoned, wandering the streets of San Bernardino, Calif. At birth, she weighed just 1 ounce and could fit into a teaspoon. Her caretakers say she’s one of the smallest puppies ever born full-term—and her story of unlikely survival has captured the attention of people all over the world.

“We had an ultrasound done, and they actually saw that there were five puppies, but one was probably going to be stillborn,”

says Beth Decaprio, executive director of the Grace Foundation of Northern California, which rehabilitates abused and neglected animals. “It didn’t look like a viable baby.”

Beyonce wasn’t breathing when she was born at the foundation’s farm in El Dorado Hills, Calif. A veterinarian tried to revive her by performing chest compressions. Then he passed her over to Decaprio.

“I blew a couple little breaths in her mouth,” Decaprio says. “And she started to breathe on her own.”

At 3 weeks old, Beyonce is now about the size of an iPhone,

but she isn’t cowed by her much bigger brothers and sisters. She crawled on top of the wriggling puppies as they nursed, trying to push them out of the way.

“They just consider her another sibling,” Decaprio says. “But she is a survivor, and she’s a tough little one.”

Beyonce, whose caretakers wanted to give her a “big” name, is not yet up for adoption, though the foundation has received hundreds of requests from people who want to take her home. When she’s stronger—and a bit bigger—the foundation will decide whether to give her away.

Death and Funeral Announcement

Francisco Santos Deleon Guerrero

In his new life; he now joins his:
Wife: †Elizabeth Manibusan Castro Deleon Guerrero
Parents: †Jesus Diaz Deleon Guerrero & †Josepha Santos Deleon Guerrero
Parents in Law: †Jose Villagomez Castro & †Rosa Manibusan Castro
Son in Law: †Dennis W. Cruz

His remains will forever live in the hearts of his:
Children: Josephine and Victor Mesta
(Dion & Carina, Christine, Dominic)
Antonio and Annie Deleon Guerrero
Barbara and Ben Sablan (Nikkie, JR, Megan and Liam)
Joaquina & Ramon Chong
(Christopher & Ashley (Ireana & RJ),
Francisco (Christopher), Dennis, Rayna, Rakina)
Theresa DL Guerrero & Ricardo Cabrera
(Terrika, Craig, Caitlin)
Ramon DL Guerrero (John Franklin)

Brothers & Sisters:
†Vicente S. Deleon Guerrero & †Dolores T. Deleon Guerrero
Isabel DLG Campos & Jesus Campos
Angie DLG Balecha & Flor Balecha
Cathy DLG. Quinata & Jess Quinata
Ramon S. Deleon Guerrero & Ramona Villagomez

Brothers and Sisters and In Laws:
†Manuel M. Castro & †Rosa J. Castro
†Nicolasa M. Castro & †Lorenzo Roberts
†Marceliano M. Castro & Dolores B. Castro
†Francisco M. Castro & Rosa O. Castro
Maria C. Porter & †Lee B. Porter
†Rosario O. Camacho

He is additionally survived by numerous uncles, aunties and cousins.

Mass of Intention is being celebrated at Nuestra Senora de Soledad Church in Kagman at 6:00 pm followed by Holy Rosary at 7:00pm. From Wednesday of Holy Week till Easter Sunday, nightly rosary will be prayed at their residence in Kagman.

Funeral Services will be held on Easter Monday, April 09, 2012. His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:00am to Nuestra Senora de Soledad Church – Kagman, Saipan. Responso Service will be at 7:30am followed by Holy Rosary at 8:00am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30am followed by Interment Service at Santuario PAX Memorial Gardens where he will be at a peaceful rest with his loving wife †Elizabeth.

Please join us in prayers,

Children and Family of the late
†Francisco Santos and †Elizabeth Castro DeLeon Guerrero

Science & Technology

Sound advice: Using a digital camera as a camcorder

By DON LINDICH
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q. Are there any cameras that work equally well as a camcorder and as a digital camera?—D.O., San Francisco

A. Some digital SLRs and interchangeable-lens cameras can produce video footage that rivals professional motion picture equipment costing tens or even hundreds of thousands of dollars. In fact, there are now multiple manufacturers offering grip equipment and optics for high-end digital SLRs so they can be used by cinematographers as professional movie-making tools. Even some of the lowest-priced interchangeable-lens cameras are capable of incredible-looking footage. When Olympus introduced its PEN E-PL1 Micro Four-Thirds camera it produced a high-definition television commercial, using the camera itself. You can see it at <http://tinyurl.com/2bvqxxa> and you would never guess it was made with such an inexpensive camera. (As for inexpensive, more on that later.)

Though these digital cameras can produce amazing video quality, to get the most out of them requires a lot of skill. Most zoom



Olympus E-PL1 interchangeable lens camera offers an affordable kit.

OLYMPUS AMERICA/MCT

a better choice if you are making a lot of movies.

If you want to explore a single camera for video and stills I would check out the \$625 Panasonic Lumix G3, the \$799 Sony Alpha a55 or the new \$1,299 Olympus OM-D EM-5 power zoom kit. Besides being top performers for stills and video, all three have electronic eye-level viewfinders. Holding a camera at arm's length while recording video is very awkward, especially at long zoom ranges.

digital camcorder and my digital SLR (set to movie mode), I can pretty much guarantee he or she would be a lot happier using the camcorder and the footage would look better, too.

Why is a camcorder usually better? A consumer camcorder uses a sensor that is much smaller than those found in these interchangeable lens cameras. Though the small sensor limits low-light performance, it produces tremendous depth of field so everything looks nice and sharp. Camcorders are designed to be easy to hold and have wide-range optical zoom lenses with smooth power zooming. For most consumers it is simply

lenses for these cameras have rotating manual zoom rings and unless the camera is mounted on a tripod, zooming while recording is likely to cause shuddering and jerky images. To get sharp footage you must be very careful when choosing focus points and some cameras, such as the Olympus E-PL1 mentioned above, have kit lenses that do not autofocus silently, leading to a clicking sound in your movies when recording a moving subject. This makes manual focusing a must and it is very difficult at times. There are other issues as well but suffice it to say for most consumers it is far easier to use a dedicated camcorder. If I handed the average person my

Science Matters

A baldness enzyme

New research has found an enzyme that appears in the scalp when hair growth shuts down — and may point to new baldness treatments.

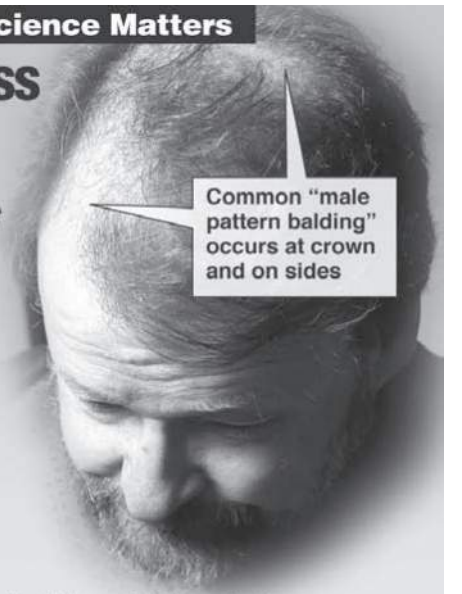
Hair growth and decline

Hairs normally grow for 2-6 years, become dormant, and fall out; new hair starts growing



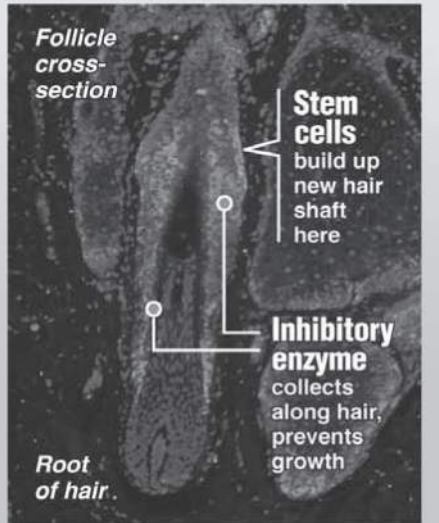
As baldness sets in, hairs shorten, get finer, fall out faster

Source: L.A. Garza of University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Science Translational Medicine, MCT Photos Graphic: Helen Lee McComas © 2012 MCT



Inside a failing hair

Studies found the enzyme prostaglandin D2 synthase in the scalps of balding men but not in men who were not balding



In Loving Memory of

Daisy Fleming Manglona

Born: March 23, 1929 - Died: March 25, 2012 at the age of 83

In her new life, she now joins her:

Parents: Henry Gordon Fleming & Consolacion Flores Fleming

Husbands: David Sandbergen and Jose Manglona

Siblings & In-Laws: Albert & Consolacion A. Fleming; Thomas & Ursula U. Fleming; George & Juanita M. Fleming; Alfred & Rosalia A. Fleming; Henry & Josepha B. Fleming; Eugene Black and Rodney Bordallo.

Survived by children and spouse:

Allan & Agnes M. Sandbergen

Alex & Natasha M. Sandbergen

Inez Sandbergen (Edward Dela Cruz)

David & Ana Sinfrosa Sandbergen

Pauline H. Sandbergen

Atra Sandbergen Lang

Alicia & Jose Adriano

Martin & Josephine Manglona

Rosina & Pedro Pinaula

Maria M. Alvarez (†Antonio C. Atalig)

Joseph & Carmen A. Manglona

Edward & Marilyn Manglona

Antonio & Rosario S. Manglona

Bernadine & Roque Castro

Steven Manglona

Dolores & Rommel Senga

Further Survived by Siblings: Lydia F. Black, Leonora F. Bordallo, Rudy F. Fleming & in-Laws: Julita D. Fleming and Amalia A. Fleming.

She will also be missed and remembered by numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, God-children, nieces and nephews.

On Tinian, nightly rosary is being prayed at 7:00 pm at the San Jose Parish. On Saipan, nightly mass is offered Tuesday thru Friday (3/26 – 3/20) at 6:00 pm at St. Jude Parish, Koblerville. On Saturday & Sunday (3/31 & 4/1) at 6:00 pm at Kristo Rai Parish, Garapan.

On Monday, April 2, 2012, her remains will be escorted from Tinian Health Center at 9:00 a.m. to San Jose Parish. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. and immediately after the Mass her body will be taken to her final resting place at the San Jose Cemetery.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase,
THE FAMILY

Life & Style

Testone, Ledet take on Zeppelin, Mariah on 'Idol'

By **DERRIK J. LANG**
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Elise Testone and Joshua Ledet successfully channeled icons of the opposite sex on “American Idol.”

Shaking her wavy blond hair and sporting a pair of tight bell-bottoms, Testone delivered a faithful rendition of Led Zeppelin’s “Whole Lotta Love,” while Ledet soared by embracing Mariah Carey’s vocal acrobatics on Badfinger’s “Without You” during the Fox singing competition’s idol-themed performance round Wednesday night.

“You made everybody get up,” Jennifer Lopez told Tes-

tone. “It was crazy.”

The 28-year-old teacher from Charleston, S.C., and the 19-year-old student from Westlake, La., both earned standing ovations from the panel—as did three other finalists: 16-year-old student Jessica Sanchez of San Diego with Beyonce’s “Sweet Dreams”; 21-year-old pawn shop worker Phillip Phillips of Leesburg, Ga., with Jonny Lang’s “Still Rainin’”; and 17-year-old student Deandre Brackensick of San Jose, Calif., with Eric Benet’s “Sometimes I Cry.”

“That’s what your voice was made to do,” Steven Tyler beamed to Brackensick.

Heejun Han, the goofy 22-year-old nonprofit organizer

from New York, found his way back into the judges’ good graces after last week’s silliness with a serious take on Leon Russell’s “A Song for You.” Tyler, the most critical of Han’s wacky antics, said he made the song “come alive in such a way that no one else can.”

“You don’t make it this far by mistake,” said Lopez.

This week’s performances kicked off with consistency from a pair of front-runners: 20-year-old rocker Colton Dixon, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., with an emotional version of Lifehouse’s “Everything,” which he called his favorite worship song, and spunky 18-year-old country rocker Skylar Laine of Brandon,

Miss., with Miranda Lambert’s “Gunpowder and Lead.”

“You are a powerhouse singer,” Jackson informed Laine.

Jackson and Tyler weren’t as fired up about the song choice from 18-year-old singer Hollie Cavanaugh of McKinney, Texas. Cavanaugh tackled former “Idol” champion Carrie Underwood’s “Jesus, Take the Wheel” to mixed results. Jackson cited pitch problems, and Tyler claimed that it didn’t show off her vocal range.

“I wish you sang a different song,” said the Aerosmith frontman. “It was just OK for me.”

One of the remaining nine finalists will face elimination Thursday.

Aerosmith promises new album in 3 months

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Aerosmith has reunited with Jack Douglas, who produced the band’s key 1970s albums, and quietly recorded a new studio album even as its lead singer traded jokes with Jennifer Lopez on “American Idol.”

Steven Tyler said Aerosmith was finishing two final songs for the as-yet-untitled album, its first since 2004’s “Honkin’ on Bobo,” and that he expected it to be released in about three months.

Joined Wednesday by Joe Perry, Tom Hamilton and Joey Kramer at a Los Angeles mall, Tyler revealed three track titles: “Legendary Child,” “Beautiful” and “Out Go the Lights.” Earlier in the week, the band

announced that its 18-stop US “Global Warming Tour” begins June 16 in Minneapolis.

“We will not let you down,” Tyler told reporters and cheering fans.

The “Idol” judge is engaged to model Erin Brady. Asked in an interview about what will be his third marriage, Tyler joked: “I cannot stop falling off stage and falling in love.”

Tyler said he reached out to Douglas—who produced 1974’s “Get Your Wings,” 1975’s “Toys in the Attic” and other seminal albums from the multiplatinum Boston band—and the other group members joined him in Los Angeles. The group’s 15th studio album will feature tunes built around guitar

riffs from tour jam sessions and some previously shelved songs.

“We have a lot of songs that are very dear to us that we’ve written over the years,” Tom Hamilton said. “And we can feel it when it’s the perfect time to whip them out. And we’re having that kind of experience now.”

Tyler said he had used elements from tracks that didn’t make previous albums.

“All the things that are left over aren’t necessarily finished. So we take those riffs and we do them again,” he said. “Because they are Aerosmith riffs. They’re our children, so to speak.”

The four members of the band—guitarist Brad Whit-

ford did not attend—arrived at the mall in separate vehicles but seemed in good spirits and played down their famed infighting.

Tyler acknowledged that the band had argued over which songs to include: “Are we going to Tom’s or Joe’s or mine? It’s always a fight. And plus it’s a whole lot more,” he said. “I think what you guys should be worrying about is the fact that we’re still together after forty years and what you’re about to hear, which is a new record. I think you’ll be pleasantly surprised.”

Perry had leveled criticism at “Idol” in the past but credited the show for lifting Tyler’s spirits.

‘Game of Thrones’ covers more ground in Season 2

By **CHUCK BARNEY**
CONTRA COSTA TIMES

If you thought the world of “Game of Thrones” was incredibly vast and complex and festooned with a crazy multitude of characters, brace yourself for Season 2 of HBO’s awesome fantasy epic.

Following the road map forged by mastermind (mad king?) George R.R. Martin, the series now takes on even more layers and more treachery, and follows so many diverse personalities over so much rugged Westeros terrain that you might find yourself wishing that HBO had provided fans with a GPS tracking device.

Of course, some characters always stand out amid the landscape, and in the four new episodes we’ve seen, our hands-down favorite is snark-spewing dwarf Tyrion Lannister, played by the marvelous Peter Dinklage. Tyrion, who skewers his rivals with a superior intellect and wit, always gets off the snappiest lines and brings a lighthearted touch to a series that tends to be oh so dark. Dink-

lage is proving that his Emmy award in Season 1 was richly deserved.

Then again, it’s probably not a good idea to get too attached to anyone on this blasted show. Not after what happened last year to beloved warrior Lord Eddard (Ned) Stark (Sean Bean), who was beheaded by newly crowned teen King Joffrey Baratheon (Jack Gleeson).

The gruesome death of what seemed to be the saga’s main character blindsided many viewers and defied TV convention. But it also honored Martin’s no-one-is-safe credo. This is an author, after all, who does brutal things to his characters.

And expect more brutality in Season 2 as war breaks out all over Westeros with various factions driven by their own bloody agendas. Among them are rival brothers of the late King Robert Baratheon (Mark Addy)—Renly (Gethin Anthony) and Stannis (Stephen Dillane), who both stake a claim to Joffrey’s Iron Throne. Though Renly is backed by the larger

army, Stannis has the support of a mysterious “red priestess” named Melisandre (Carice van Houten), who apparently has some magical mojo working in her favor.

Also vying for power: noble Robb Stark (Richard Madden), who is out to avenge his father’s death; Baylon Greyjoy (Patrick Malahide), ruthless ruler of the Iron Islands; and young Daenerys Targaryen (Emilia Clarke), who has three newborn dragons in her arsenal.

To get what they want, they’ll have to unseat Joffrey, who is such an arrogant and terrifyingly demented little brat that we have to refrain from throwing things at the TV whenever he’s on screen. We can hardly wait to see the look on his smug mug whenever he learns that he’s the incestuous offspring of a coniving mother, Queen Cersei (Lena Headey), and her brother Jaime (Nikolaj Coster-Waldau).

If that’s not enough to keep track of, we’re also following Jon Snow (Kit Harrington), Eddard’s “bastard” son, as he

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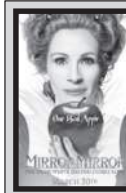
Wrath Of The Titans

Friday		4:20	7:20	9:35
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:35
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Monday thru Thursday		4:20	7:20	

Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson
Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Warner Bros. and Legendary Pictures presents this follow-up to their mythological sword-and-sandal remake with this sequel penned by Dan Mazeau and David Leslie Johnson. Jonathan Liebesman (Battle: Los Angeles) handles direction duties, with Sam Worthington and Gemma Arterton returning as Perseus and Io.



Mirror Mirror

Friday		4:30	7:30	9:50
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	9:50
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Monday thru Thursday		4:30	7:30	

Julia Roberts, Lily Collins
Fantasy • Rated PG

Synopsis

One of the most beloved stories of all time is coming to life in the motion picture event for the whole family, Mirror Mirror. A fresh and funny retelling of the Snow White legend, Mirror Mirror features breakout star Lily Collins (The Blind Side) as Snow White, a princess in exile, and Oscar®-winner Julia Roberts as the evil Queen who ruthlessly rules her captured kingdom. Seven courageous rebel dwarfs join forces with Snow White as she fights to reclaim her birthright and win her Prince in this magical comedy filled with jealousy, romance, and betrayal that will capture the hearts and imaginations of audiences the world over. The film also stars Armie Hammer (The Social Network) as the Prince, and Nathan Lane (The Birdcage) as the hapless and bungling servant to the Queen.

★ ★ ★



The Hunger Games

Friday		4:00	7:00	10:00
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	10:00
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Monday thru Thursday		4:00	7:00	

Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson
Science fiction • Rated PG 13



21 Jump Street

Friday		4:25	7:25	9:40
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:40
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Monday thru Thursday		4:25	7:25	

Jonah Hill, Channing Tatum
Comedy, Action • Rated R



The Vow

Friday		4:15	7:15	9:55
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:55
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Monday thru Thursday		4:15	7:15	

Rachel McAdams, Channing Tatum
Drama • Rated PG 13



John Carter

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:45
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:45
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Monday thru Thursday		4:05	7:05	

Taylor Kitsch, Lynn Collins
Fantasy, Science fiction • Rated PG 13



Dr. Seuss' The Lorax

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:30
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:30
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Monday thru Thursday		4:10	7:10	

Zac Efron, Taylor Swift
Children's/Family • Rated PG

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Louvre unlocks last da Vinci work

PARIS (AP)—An intense and controversial restoration of the last great work by Leonardo da Vinci goes before the public Thursday at the Louvre Museum, revealing “The Virgin and Child with Saint Anne” in the full panoply of hues and detail painted by the Renaissance master 500 years ago.

The 18-month-long restoration of the painting that Leonardo labored on for 20 years until his death in 1519 will go a long way to raising “Saint Anne” to its place as one of the most influential Florentine paintings of its time and a step towards the high Renaissance of Michelangelo.

The cleaning has endowed the painting portraying the Virgin Mary with her mother Saint Anne and the infant Jesus with new life and luminosity. Dull, faded hues were transformed into vivid browns and lapis lazuli that had visitors awe-struck.

“It’s unbelievable, so beautiful. Now you have that same feeling as when you enter Michelangelo’s restored Sistine Chapel. Look at the blue!” one visitor, Odile Celler, 66, said Wednesday.

The exhibit brings together some 130 preparatory drawings and studies by Leonardo and his apprentices—something curator Vincent Delieuvin likened to “a police investigation”—tracing the painting’s conception and revealing to experts today the entire development over the last 20 years of Leonardo’s life.

Almost like detective work, the impressive display of sketch books and mathematical diagrams hold clues not just to unlocking the art behind the painting, but—for the man who was more famous in his day as an engineer—the years of scientific research that defined his work.

“The exhibit is a science workshop,” Delieuvin said. “For Leonardo, art is founded on theoretical knowledge of nature



A man views the newly restored painting “The Virgin and Child with Saint Anne” by Italian Renaissance master Leonardo da Vinci, at the Louvre Museum in Paris, Tuesday, March 27, 2012.

and its functioning.”

In one carnet spilling with mathematical sketches, we see how over several years he painstakingly studied light refracting from opaque objects. It decodes the technique that made Leonardo famous. The Saint Anne painting is a glowing example clearly seen in the blue opaque mantle with its almost imperceptible play on light and shadow.

The key to the hazy realism of the tree, too, with the subtle contrast of light in its leaves was cracked by infrared used during the restoration. To get this effect, Leonardo first painted the entire tree structure in full and only afterwards painted the foliage on top.

Another notebook astounds

in its detailed analysis of water and air compression that shows the thinking that went into creating the sweeping blue and gray mountains rising up behind Saint Anne and child.

Like the novel “The da Vinci Code,” the restoration of the master’s last work has been accompanied by high-level intrigue worthy of a political thriller.

Seventeen years ago, the Louvre abandoned an attempt to clean the painting amid fears over how the solvents were affecting the sfumato, a painting technique that Leonardo mastered.

After the cleaning was eventually given the green light in 2009, two of France’s top art experts—Jean-Pierre Cuzin and Segolene

Bergeon Langle—resigned last year from the Louvre advisory committee responsible for the restoration, amid reports they were outraged that restorers were over-cleaning the work to a brightness Leonardo never intended.

The museum confirmed to The Associated Press last year’s resignations but said it could give no further details on the events.

However, on seeing the final product, Bergeon Langle, France’s national authority on art restoration, has partly buried the hatchet.

In an interview in the Louvre’s in-house magazine, she said she has been reassured on some aspects that bothered her. But she also said she remained unhappy about other points of the restoration. She notably criticized the decision to remove a white patch on the body of the infant Jesus, which she said was painted by Leonardo himself.

Whether it was done by the Renaissance man we will never know, an artist who made only 18 works—all unfinished.

Indeed, mystery still shrouds much of Leonardo’s career.

A discovery restorers stumbled across during the cleaning of the Saint Anne painting points to another mystery, this one in Leonardo’s hometown of Florence and linked to his missing masterpiece “The Battle of Anghiari” also known as “The Lost Leonardo.”

After infrared photography was used to scan the Louvre work, the exhibit shows that two pictures were found that had been secretly hidden in the painting for hundreds of years.

One, drawn by a left-handed artist, is thought to be by Leonardo, who was himself left-handed.

It is a depiction of the hatchings on a horse’s head, similar to that in the mural of “The Battle of Anghiari.”

Winehouse family to get her \$4.66 million fortune

LONDON (AP)—Records show Amy Winehouse left an estate worth 2.94 million pounds (\$4.66 million) after her death last year.

The 27-year-old soul diva was found dead in bed on July 23 at her London home.

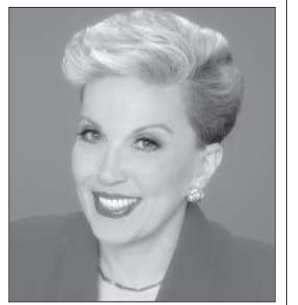
Probate documents showed Wednesday that she left behind assets totaling more than 4.25 million pounds (\$6.7 million), with 2.94 million pounds (\$4.66 million) remaining after debts and taxes.

Since Winehouse did not leave a will, the money will go to her parents. The documents list father Mitch Winehouse as administrator of the singer’s estate. Nothing goes to her ex-husband, Blake Fielder-Civil, whom she divorced in 2009.

Winehouse shot to fame with her 2006 album “Back to Black,” but struggled for years with drug and alcohol abuse. An inquest found she died of accidental alcohol poisoning.

Casual hello on dating site causes unease on the job

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I’m a 27-year-old professional who works long hours at a hospital. Dating isn’t easy for me, so I decided to try an online service. My first time online I recognized a co-worker I see on a regular basis and have always exchanged smiles with, but don’t know personally. I wrote him a message just to say hi. I didn’t say I was interested in him. I never heard back from him.

Since I sent that message he has checked my profile several times. But when he sees me in the hallways, he turns red and now just gives me half-smiles. I was waiting at the elevator with him the other day, but he was so embarrassed by the silence that I bailed and took the stairs.

He continues to smile, but I’m not sure what to say to him the next time I see him. I think it’s rude that he didn’t reply to my message—even with a “See you around!”—but I’m too embarrassed to do or say anything when I encounter him. Help!

ON MY SHIFT IN OHIO

DEAR ON YOUR SHIFT: Your co-worker may not be particularly adept socially, or he may be reluctant to become involved with someone where he works. Please don’t take his not responding to your email so personally. The next time you run into him in the hall, just say hello. If he has any manners at all, he’ll return your greeting and it may melt the ice.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I work for a national tax preparation business, and I have some advice for customers to make the experience better and more efficient:

1. If at all possible, leave the kids at home. At the very least, don’t allow them to run around the office. We have sensitive equipment and paperwork that is not there to keep your kids entertained.
2. This is our busiest time of year. Lines can be long and clients are impatient, so please don’t hand us a bag of receipts to add up. Plan ahead and do the addition yourself.
3. Before your appointment, ask what’s needed to make the process as efficient as possible. There are many resources online to help you get organized.
4. If you have business expenses and mileage, have that information organized and ready.
5. Be certain you have received ALL your tax-related paperwork (W-2s, 1099s, etc.) before coming in. Being in a hurry will result in your owing the IRS or the state because the income wasn’t completely reported. This small step can avoid many problems.
6. And, please don’t be angry if you have been waiting and your preparer needs to step away for a short time. It’s not unusual for us to work 10 to 12 hours a day helping customers. Like everyone else we occasionally need a break to take our eyes off the computer screen for a little bit, so be understanding.

We want to give you the best service possible and making it easier on us will accomplish this task.

JULIE IN KEARNS, UTAH

DEAR JULIE: I hope readers will pay attention to your suggestions. Tax season is stressful for everyone involved, but particularly for tax preparation professionals. Being courteous, considerate and as organized as possible will relieve some of the strain not only for the person crunching the numbers, but also for the customer.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby’s most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Bobby Brown charged with DUI in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Bobby Brown was charged Wednesday with three misdemeanor charges including drunken driving, two days after his afternoon arrest in suburban Los Angeles.

Brown faces two DUI-related counts and another charge that he was driving on a suspended license, city attorney’s spokesman Frank Mateljan said. One of the counts alleges the R&B singer had a blood alcohol level of more than 0.08 percent, which is the level at which someone is presumed to be driving under the influence.

Brown’s attorney, Tiffany Feder, said she could not comment

on the case because she had not yet received the police report and other documents. Earlier in the day, she released a statement denying that the singer was driving unsafely when he was pulled over by the California Highway Patrol on Monday afternoon.

The agency said Brown was initially stopped because he was seen talking on a cellphone without a hands-free unit, but the officer also suspected the singer was impaired. Brown failed a field sobriety test, according to the CHP.

He was released from jail without having to post bail.

“Mr. Brown is taking this mat-

ter seriously, and an investigation is under way,” Feder said in the statement released before her client was charged. “The legal process shall run its course.”

Brown faces up to six months in jail on the DUI counts if convicted. His first court appearance is scheduled for April 16.

He is the ex-husband of singer Whitney Houston, who drowned in a bathtub on the eve of Grammy Awards in February. He made a brief appearance at her funeral but left before the service began.

Brown is a founding member of the group New Edition and has been touring with the group recently.

problems, but told the BBC last month he was making a good recovery. He did not disclose the nature of his illness, but said a growth on his colon had been removed.

Gibb has lost weight and has appeared extremely gaunt in his rare public appearances.

The Bee Gees had a string of hits in the disco era, including “Stayin’ Alive.”

Bee Gees star Robin Gibb is hospitalized

LONDON (AP)—Bee Gees star Robin Gibb has undergone further surgery following a sustained illness, a publicist said Wednesday.

Gibb is recovering in the hospital after intestinal surgery over the weekend and has been forced to cancel a number of commitments, publicist Doug Wright said.

Gibb is slated to attend the Royal Philharmonic’s premiere

performance of “The Titanic Requiem” in London on April 10, and will perform a new song, “Don’t Cry Alone.”

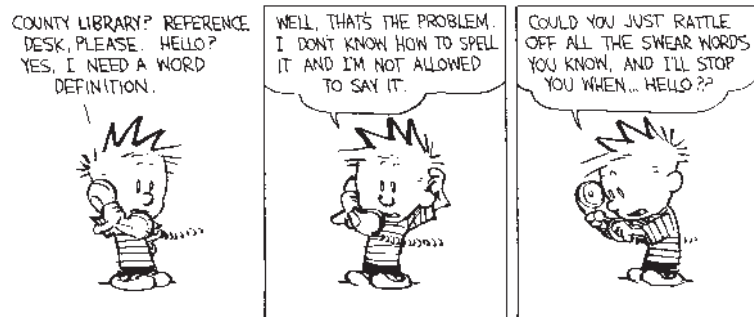
The requiem, a classical composition by Gibb and his son, RJ, commemorates the April 1912 sinking of the ocean liner and the loss of more than 1,500 lives.

Gibb, 62, was hospitalized late last year for stomach and colon

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



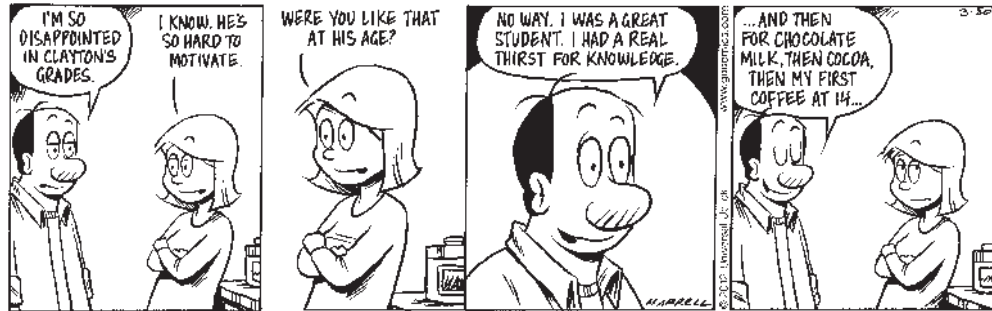
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ACROSS

1 Suitable search of
8 Egg part
12 Eccentric
13 Appo-mattox
14 VIP
15 "Super-food"
16 fruit
17 Met melody
18 Stuff drifting in the ocean
19 Depend (on)
20 Hit
21 Jewel
22 Trawler need
23 Quantum theorist
24 Max
25 Lay out
26 Muppet master
27 Henson
28 Before
29 Vague
30 Swindle
31 Ontario tribe
32 "—"
33 Town
34 Salary

DOWN

1 Heidi's range
2 Hide
3 Rend
4 Talked on and on
5 Four pairs
6 "7 Faces of Dr. —"
7 Leader
8 Fate
9 Raw rock
10 Lubricate
11 Band-leader
12 Kyser
13 Fool
14 Tale-teller
15 Jealousy
16 Grecian vessel
17 Old French coin
18 "A mouse!"
19 Main-lander's memento

Solution time: 25 mins.

G	A	L	A	V	I	C	E	D	U	D
O	B	I	S	A	C	A	I	E	N	E
D	E	M	I	T	T	I	N	G	M	I
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K	I	N	S	F	E	K	T	A	M	S

Yesterday's answer 3-30

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Katy Mixon, 31; Celine Dion, 44; Eric Clapton, 67; Warren Beatty, 75.

Happy Birthday: Be careful where you invest your time and effort. Not everyone will be worthy of your help. Use your charm to get what you want, but don't rely on intuition to guide you down the right path. Get everything in writing, and don't assume anything. Take control and do whatever it takes to reach your goals. Your numbers are 2, 6, 24, 27, 32, 28, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Unexpected, time-consuming responsibilities will have to be dealt with quickly if you don't want to fall behind. Take on what you feel compelled to handle on your own and delegate the rest to someone you trust to get the job done. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Mix business with pleasure and you will enhance your reputation and find ways to please everyone. Networking will pay off if you share your creative ideas with someone who may be interested in helping you out. A short trip will be successful. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Rely on your experience and knowledge to help you figure out what will work best for you at home and at work. Don't make a move without weighing the pros and cons. Ulterior motives will cause confusion and poor choices. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Do whatever it takes to tie up loose ends. You'll be criticized if you are inefficient or you don't take responsibility when asked. Love is

highlighted, and celebrating should be planned, but not before your work is complete. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't get down. If someone is complaining or not treating you properly, take note and move on. A change of pace, lifestyle or surroundings will brighten your day and bring you in contact with people who will appreciate what you have to offer. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Offer suggestions and help along the way, and you will get the same in return. Sharing plans for the future will help you lock in exactly what you need to do and when in order to reach your goals. Love is highlighted. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Look for a simple solution. Avoid anyone using force or who tends to be unpredictable. You need to keep things moving peacefully and at a steady pace if you want to get things done. Address pressing money matters. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Communication, travel and learning through experience and challenges are highlighted. Love is on the rise, and expanding your interests with someone you enjoy being with will lead to a richer life and relationship. Use your imagination. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't worry about what everyone around you is doing. Focus on how you can make your home life better. Avoid trouble by sticking to the rules and regulations, especially if you must travel or deal with unfamiliar people. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Expect to deal with emotional issues. Don't put up with unpredictable behavior or unrealistic plans. Make decisions based on what is best for you and don't look back. You can make financial gains if you take action. ***



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't let sentiment get in your way. You have to make changes that will help you move in a positive and progressive direction. Don't let an unwise friendship mislead you. Make demands if it will help you avoid a setback. ***



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Make creative changes at home and you will feel less stressed and better equipped to deal with the other uncertainties in your life. Let experience guide you in the right direction. Love is in the stars. *****

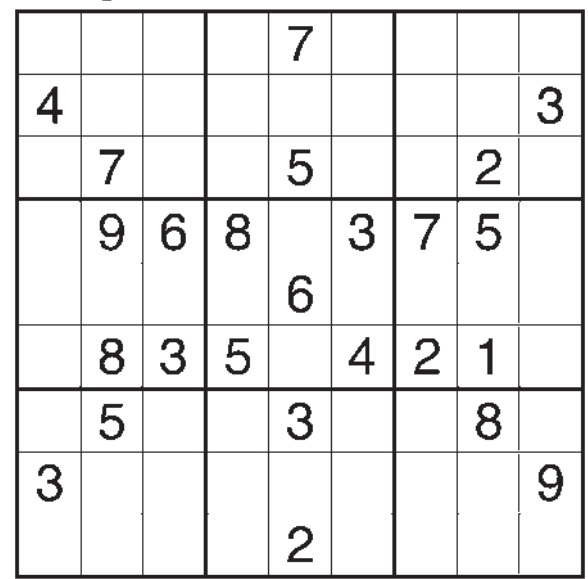
Birthday Baby: You are caring, affectionate and impulsive. You are persuasive and attract attention.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

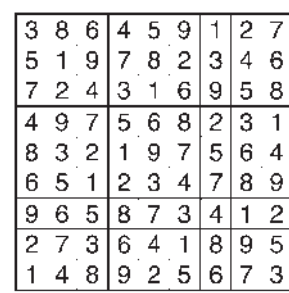


Difficulty Level ★★★★★

3/30

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

3/29

STUMPED?

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

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Solution: 4 letters



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3/30

Alert, Arrow, Bluetooth, Browser, Button, Calculator, Calendar, Camera, Card, Clock, Compass, Connections, Device, Facebook, Feed, File, Full, Games, Google, Home, Icon, Improve, Keys, List, Loading, Maps, Memo Pad, Memory, Menu, Network, Radio, Reboot, Ring, Saved, Setup, Shop, Smart, Social, Step, Tags, Text, Twitter, Update, View, Windows, Yahoo, YouTube

Yesterday's Answer: Book

THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD: Volume 20 (this is the last of the series). A puzzle book with 400 puzzles and answers. Hardcover, \$25.00. ISBN 978-1-4061-4000-0. Paperback, \$12.99. ISBN 978-1-4061-4001-7. Kindle, \$9.99. ISBN 978-1-4061-4002-4.

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Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia - Imwal Aweewe - House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950 - T: (670) 236-9715 - F: (670) 236-9702

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
DEPUTY CLERK TWO
Office of the Clerk of Court
Superior Court, CNMI Judicial Branch

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judicial Branch is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of **Deputy Clerk Two, Office of the Clerk of Court, Superior Court** on the Island of Saipan.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: The position is under the general supervision of the Presiding Judge and direct supervision of the Clerk of Court. The employee in this class performs work with wide latitude for the exercise of independent judgment and action in accordance with established policies, practices and court procedure. The following are required duties:

- Receive, review and record documents filed for hearing;
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- Track cases taken under advisement, ensure updates of same and provide periodic reports to the Clerk of Court and effected judges;
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- Maintain the list of court-appointed attorneys and ensure their rotation for indigent criminals, juveniles and 8 CMC #1719 cases;
- Update and maintain case dockets, judgment books and case files;
- Assist with the certification of records in cases appealed to the CNMI Supreme Court;
- Assist the Clerk of Court with the handling of dockets assigned to Judges Pro Tem;
- Serve as a courtroom clerk for the judges, which includes but is not limited to the following: ensuring courtroom readiness for proceedings; attending court sessions; administering oaths to witnesses, operating electronic recording equipment, listing all relevant portions of proceedings on a log, receiving, marking and assuming responsibility of all introduced evidence, and performing translation during proceedings;
- Assist with the training and supervision of assigned deputy clerks and section staff; the training includes but is not limited to courtroom procedures, custodianship of records, certification of records, administering of oaths, administering jury panels, and other clerkship duties for all trial court proceedings;
- Assist the Clerk of Court with Jury Trial Coordination. Compile, track, and update applicable lists of the Commonwealth citizens eligible for jury service, and
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS: Any combination equivalent to graduation from an accredited college or university with a BS degree in business administration, public administration or related field, plus, four (4) years of experience in legal, law enforcement, court, administrative or related work. Strong preference exists for those with work experience in the legal field. Candidates must possess a valid CNMI driver's license, computer skills, and current police and traffic clearances.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: These are ungraded positions appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. Starting salary will be between \$25,000 and \$31,757.68, commensurate with experience.

INTERESTED PERSONS should submit their resume and complete application in person to the Honorable Robert C. Naraja Presiding Judge of the Superior Court at the Guma' Hustisia/Imwal Aweewe/House of Justice, Susupe, Saipan or by mail to PO Box 502165, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. For additional information about this position, call (670)236-9800. Resume and application must be received by April 11, 2012. This job vacancy announcement, this position description and application can be viewed at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>.

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Facsimile: (670) 233-0776

Attorney for Plaintiffs

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ZENAIDA B. MANSAY,
SHIERA CELINE M.
ABADILLA and SHAINA
RUZEN M. ABADILLA,
Plaintiffs,

vs

VICENTE N. CRUZ,
Defendant.

Civil Action No. 10-0190

SUMMONS

TO: DEFENDANT, VICENTE N. CRUZ

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to appear and defend the claims presented in this Complaint, a copy of which is given you herewith, within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons upon you and deliver or mail a copy of your Responsive Pleading to the Plaintiff's counsel whose address is at Thompson Law Office, LLC, 2nd Floor JET Building, PMB 917, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practicable after filing your Responsive Pleading.

Your Responsive Pleading to the Complaint should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, CNMI. It may be prepared and signed by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by electronic filing or by messenger or mail. It is not necessary to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to appear and defend in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By Order of the Court.

Dated this 29th day of June, 2010

/s/Clerk of Court

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KING LAW OFFICE
Janet H. King
P.O. Box 520030 Tinian MP 96952
Ph: (670) 433 0419 235 8060
Fx: (670) 235 8070
Counsel for Plaintiff

LAW OFFICES OF LOREN A. SUTTON
D'Torres Building, Garapan, Saipan
P.O. BOX 5593
SAIPAN, MP 96950
PHONE: (670) 989 0627
FAX: (670) 235-8070
Co-Counsel for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

FRANCISCO Q. GUERRERO
Plaintiff
vs.
KIM, CHANG OK
Defendant

CASE NO. 12-0046
AMENDED SUMMONS

TO DEFENDANT: KIM, CHANG OK

YOU ARE HEREBY summoned and notified to file an answer, you make to the Amended Complaint. A copy of the Amended Complaint will be published in the Saipan Tribune Newspaper, and posted on the Superior Court Bulletin Board in Susupe, Saipan. You must file your Answer within twenty one days after publication of this Summons for four consecutive weeks, and deliver a copy of your answer to Loren A. Sutton, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is P.O. BOX 5593, SAIPAN MP 96950 as soon as practicable after filing your answer and sending it to this Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed by you or for you, by your counsel, and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above Court:

Dated this 22d day of March 2012.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT

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Suzuki stars in Japan, M's beat A's in MLB opener



TOKYO
(AP)—
Ichiro
Suzuki

looked perfectly at home, putting on the kind of show that made him so popular in Japan.

Too bad most fans across America couldn't follow along.

Suzuki got four hits and plenty of attention as the Seattle Mariners beat the Oakland Athletics 3-1 in 11 innings Wednesday night in the Major League Baseball opener.

A capacity crowd of 44,227 lit up Tokyo Dome with camera flashes every time Suzuki came to bat. He drew a standing ovation when he took his position in right field in the final inning.

"It was very special to open in Japan," said Suzuki, a star for nine seasons in Osaka with the Orix Blue Wave. "I wanted to have fun and give the fans something at this special time and wanted to share a special moment with them."

"The festivities for opening day were awesome, the detail, the time they put into it. I loved every minute of it. I love being in Japan," he said.

A lot of big leaguers arriving early at camp wanted to enjoy it, too, but couldn't.

The game began at 6:09 a.m. EDT and was televised live only to the Seattle and Oakland markets. The MLB Network showed it on tape delay at 9 a.m. — the game already was in extra innings when the nationwide telecast carried the first pitch.

"I got here at 5:15 in the morning and went in to turn on the game and couldn't find it anywhere," Atlanta manager Fredi Gonzalez complained in Kissimmee, Fla., where the



Seattle Mariners rightfielder Ichiro Suzuki, right, celebrates with teammates after beating the Oakland Athletics, 3-1, in their American League season opening MLB baseball game at Tokyo Dome in Tokyo, Wednesday, March 28, 2012.

Braves hosted the New York Yankees in an exhibition.

"I tried everything, MLB, ESPN, and I still don't know who won. I got here early to check it," he said.

In Tampa, Fla., Yankees manager Joe Girardi kept switching channels and seemed a bit frustrated he couldn't find the game on his clubhouse office TV. Hours later in Peoria, Ariz., San Diego manager Bud Black and some of the Padres tuned in before their spring training game.

Asked whether he watched,

Houston Astros closer Brett Myers turned sarcastic.

"Was there a game on?" he said.

Later in the day, the MLB Network changed its programming schedule for Thursday's wrapup of the two-game series between the Mariners and A's. A live telecast was added at 5 a.m. EDT to go with the previously planned replays, network spokeswoman Lorraine Fisher said.

Felix Hernandez combined with two relievers on a six-hitter as MLB opened its season in To-

kyo for the fourth time. Dustin Ackley homered and singled in the go-ahead run in the 11th.

The continent switch didn't help the A's, who became the first team to lose eight straight openers since Philadelphia from 1985-92, according to STATS LLC.

MLB and the players' association are using the series to assist rebuilding in Japan following last year's earthquake and tsunami. A group of players and coaches traveled to the disaster zone on Tuesday to conduct a baseball clinic.

The rest of the big league teams start to get going April 4, when the renamed Miami Marlins open their new ballpark against the World Series champion St. Louis Cardinals. In the meantime, the A's and Mariners will resume playing spring training games this weekend.

Dropped from lead-off to third in the batting order as he started his 12th big league season, Suzuki singled in the first when he beat shortstop Cliff Pennington's throw after his grounder over the mound was deflected by Oakland starter Brandon McCarthy.

Suzuki singled on a grounder to shortstop in the fourth, singled to center in the sixth and had an RBI single to center in the 11th.

"We're trying to stretch out the lineup

and have the guys feed off each other," Seattle manager Eric Wedge said. "I think Ichiro hitting in the third spot is the right place. We're going to be a very offensive ballclub this year."

The 38-year-old Suzuki set a big league record with 10 consecutive 200-hit seasons before falling short last year.

"He's a hitting machine," said Oakland manager Bob Melvin, who managed Suzuki with the Mariners in 2003 and 2004. "It doesn't matter where he bats in the lineup. That's what he

does—hit."

Ackley homered in the fourth off McCarthy, and Oakland's Kurt Suzuki doubled in a run in the bottom half. The score remained 1-0 until the 11th, when Brendan Ryan doubled against Andrew Carignan (0-1), Chone Figgins sacrificed and Ackley singled to center.

"I was able to put a good swing on that one," Ackley said. "Our team is off to a good start, and that's all that matters."

Jerry Blevins relieved, Ackley stole second and Ichiro Suzuki singled for a two-run lead. Brandon League closed it out for the save.

Tom Wilhelmson (1-0) got the win with two hitless innings.

Cuban defector Yoenis Cespedes, who signed a \$36 million, four-year contract with Oakland, was 1 for 3 with a seventh-inning double and two strikeouts in his major league debut.

Oakland slugger Manny Ramirez did not make the trip. He must sit out the first 50 games for a second violation of MLB's drug policy. He's eligible to return on May 30, his 40th birthday.

Hernandez, coming off a 14-14 season, allowed five hits in eight innings, struck out six and walked none, throwing 104 pitches.

McCarthy gave up one run and six hits in seven innings with three strikeouts and no walks.

While Oakland threatened repeatedly, the A's were 1 for 14 with runners in scoring position. "They got bigger hits than we did at the end," Melvin said. "We hit some balls hard, but they just didn't get in."

Johnson signs on to lend his magic to Dodgers

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Magic Johnson is about to learn \$2 billion only buys you so much. Now he'll need to bring the Los Angeles Dodgers the same success he brought the Lakers.

News that Johnson and his partners agreed to purchase the team sparked a groundswell of excited chatter and optimism Wednesday that the man who ran "Showtime" could restore luster to the once-proud franchise.

The amount Johnson and his partners are paying would be mind-blowing if it was just for the team itself. But it also gives Johnson's group the right to reel in future riches from TV and real estate associated with the Dodgers.

"A big part of the purchase price is all those other things," said David Carter, executive director of USC Sports Business Institute. "You've got a great piece of property you can develop and make a game-day experience around Chavez Ravine. A likely billion-dollar cable (television) rights deal that will come out of it makes it a very

unique sale."

Current owner Frank McCourt hand-picked Johnson's group to buy the Dodgers on Tuesday, just five hours after Major League Baseball approved three finalists in a bankruptcy auction. The deal is one of several steps toward a sale of the team by the end of April. It is subject to approval by a federal bankruptcy judge.

"The interest in this franchise and its historic sale price are profound illustrations of the great overall health of our industry," baseball Commissioner Bud Selig said. "This has been a long, difficult process, and I once again want to thank the great Dodger fans for their loyalty and patience."

Selig has the right to review the final agreement. If MLB has any objections, it would bring them up with mediator Joseph Farnan Jr.

Johnson's group would gain the ability to sell the Dodgers' local broadcasting rights starting with games in 2014. It likely would use money gained from

the rights sale—or from the team's own network with outside investment—and use those funds to pay down the acquisition debt. The team's debt stood at \$579 million as of January, according to a court filing.

Johnson is seemingly a perfect fit. He lives locally, he already knows what it takes to win championships, and he's proven he can succeed in real estate, retail and entertainment—keys to helping the team bolster its coffers in pursuit of big-money free agents.

"He's well-grounded and well-respected," Carter said. "You have a strong presence in the community, he's connected to city hall, and has a good relationship with the media. All these things are important and will help the community get over Frank."

And Johnson still has the dazzling smile that will make him a great public face for what once was—and could be again—one of baseball's marquee franchises.

"Great day for the Dodgers," slugger Matt Kemp said from

spring training in Glendale, Ariz. "As Magic used to say, the Dodgers were the team that used to run L.A. Definitely we were going to have more fans out there this year. Now there's another reason to have the fans turn out."

Retired Dodgers manager Tom Lasorda has known Johnson since he first came to play for the Lakers.

"The most important part is he'll talk to some of the players individually about how to win. That's what we got to do right now is win again and bring our fans back," he said. "He knows how to talk to people, he knows how to impress people and how to build people up."

Hours after the announcement that Johnson's group was the winning bidder, the Dodgers said their April 10 home opener was sold out.

"As soon as you hear the name Magic Johnson, it turns into a positive," Dodgers manager Don Mattingly said. "There's positive energy around the ball club, around the city."

Johnson's group didn't comment Wednesday, but he said after their winning bid was announced that he was thrilled to be part of the franchise "as we drive the Dodgers back to the front page of the sports section in our wonderful community of Los Angeles."

Johnson's business acumen is equal to his success on the court. The 52-year-old Hall of Fame guard won championships at Everett High in Lansing, Mich., at Michigan State and five NBA titles with the Lakers.

After being forced to retire suddenly in 1991 with HIV, Johnson remade himself into a successful entrepreneur and became a respected voice as an HIV activist and campaigned to educate people about the disease.

Johnson is well-known for his self-named nationwide chain of movie theaters, movie studio, and promotion company. He previously owned more than 100 Starbucks franchises and had a minority ownership in the Lakers. His other ventures include commercial real estate

and health clubs.

"Magic Johnson is probably the most beloved sports figure in Los Angeles history," Lakers owner Jerry Buss said. "He has been a success in everything else he's become involved with, most notably his spectacular business career and also his educational campaign on behalf of HIV awareness."

Johnson's reputation as a winner in sports and business lends a new air of credibility to the Dodgers, who saw attendance plummet below 3 million in McCourt's final season when fans bashed his stewardship of the team.

"I think they'll be able to fill the stadium just because of Magic," said Mike Baldwin, a longtime fan who quit going to games after McCourt bought the team in 2003. "I don't think baseball could have done a better job than to pull him in."

Johnson's partners in buying the Dodgers include Stan Kasten, former president of the Atlanta Braves and Washington Nationals; and Peter Guber, a longtime Hollywood executive and co-owner of the NBA's Golden State Warriors.

Cultures clash in commonwealth over UK-UofL game



LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP)—This Bluegrass State rivalry runs deep, and the divide is wide.

Just 70 miles apart, Lexington and Louisville are worlds apart when it comes to college basketball. Come Saturday when the Cardinals and Wildcats meet at the Final Four in New Orleans, a berth in the national title game is just the beginning.

Here, the game is likened to a civil war.

Pick a side: Wildcats or Cardinals. Rupp's Runts or the Doctors of Dunk. Dan Issel or Wes Unseld. John Calipari or Rick Pitino.

"If the excitement and frenzy and turbulence that's been stirred up in Kentucky this week could be harnessed, we could solve our energy crisis," Kentucky Sen. Mitch McConnell said on the Senate floor. "Basketball fans from Kentucky have been waiting their whole lives for this game."

This is the grudge match to end them all.

It's the fifth time the schools will meet in the NCAA tournament - the two sides have split the four previous meetings - and it pits Louisville coach Pitino against one-time friend and now frosty foe Calipari. Not to mention Kentucky freshmen phenoms Anthony Davis and Michael Kidd-Gilchrist, who have been steady in taking the Wildcats to the top, vs. a ragtag flock of Cardinals who've won eight straight with a rotating cast of mostly unknowns such as Peyton Siva and Gorgui Dieng.

"It's not about (Pitino) or I; it's about these players," said Calipari, who's in his second consecutive Final Four still searching for the national title that's eluded him. "Hopefully we both have our teams ready to play, and I think we will, and we'll go at it."

The Cardinals (30-9) lost this year's matchup vs. the Wildcats (36-2) 69-62 on Dec. 31. Even though there is much more on the line Saturday, it will be difficult for the game to be much more intense.

"There's going to be so much pressure on the players," former Louisville forward Earl Clark said. "It's going to go down in history. Kentucky is the No. 1 team, and Louisville is like the Cinderella of the tournament."

Kentucky blue dominates most of the state of more than 4.3 million basketball-crazed fans, surrounding the outnumbered Cardinals fans who have fortified a stronghold in the state's largest city.

The fan bases are about as different as they can be, and Pitino is one of the few who knows what it's like on both sides of the aisle.

He coached Kentucky for eight years, bringing the 'Cats back to the pinnacle of greatness with an NCAA title in '96. He's been at Louisville for the last 11 years and is heading to his second Final Four with the Cardinals.

"It's two different entities, really, it's two rabid fan bases," Pitino said.

That was oh so clear this week when two senior citizens duked it out at a Georgetown dialysis clinic.

A 68-year-old Kentucky fan and 71-year-old Louisville fan were arguing Monday about who will win Saturday's game when the discussion quickly got out of hand. Georgetown police Lt. Robert Swanigan says the Kentucky fan flipped off the Louisville fan, prompting the Cardinals fan to punch him in the face. Though police were



Louisville coach Rick Pitino listens to a reporter's question during a news conference, Tuesday, March 27, 2012 in Louisville, Ky. AP

called, Swanigan said the Kentucky fan declined to file charges.

The fight likely wouldn't surprise Kentucky coach Calipari, who lovingly compares Wildcats fans to piranhas—yes, the flesh-eating fish.

"If you're going to attack Kentucky, just be right," Calipari said of a fan base that feeds off every little bit of information about his school and dissects every game tape three times. "I'm just telling you: piranha—wahp-wahp-wahp-wahp-wahp. They'll come and eat your yard, your house. These people are nuts."

And Cardinals' fans enjoy poking fun at them.

On Twitter and message boards, they joke how Kentucky fans turn Cats into two words—Ca-yuts. One of Big Blue Nation's favorite retorts? Loserville.

Pitino jokes many marriages in the state fail because they have a Louisville woman marrying a Kentucky man.

Nick Fenton and his wife, Christi, are working through their differences in Louisville. Fenton said they fly a "House Divided" flag in their front yard with the two schools' logos displayed.

"Her family is all Cards fans, so they brainwashed her," said Fenton, who usually reserves the rhetoric for one week a year. "This Final Four game, though, it's going to be pretty wild."

It took the governor to first get the two schools together on an annual basis.

Kentucky never scheduled in-state schools under coach Adolph Rupp, and former assistant Joe B. Hall dutifully followed suit when he took over as coach. Gov. John Y. Brown stepped in following their matchup in the 1983 NCAA Midwest Regional finals—know around the state as The Dream Game. Louisville beat Kentucky in overtime in Knoxville, Tenn., in the teams' first meeting since 1959.

"It created a lot of animosity and strong feelings toward each other, but

at the same time I felt like the taxpayers were entitled to see the competition between two of the nation's premier programs," the former governor said. "If you ask either school what the No. 1 game on the schedule both in basketball and football, they'll say it's the rival school."

"They have to live in shame, which ever one loses."

Kentucky vs. Louisville is a matchup of cultural divide that's steeped in history with nine combined titles between the two schools, the same number as the more publicized North Carolina-Duke rivalry.

Former Kentucky guard and No. 1 NBA pick John Wall remembers the wild scene before the only rivalry game he played in 2010 more than the contest itself.

"I didn't think it was that big until we played them. There was about to be a big brawl at the beginning of the game. Technicals both ways," said Wall, star guard for the Washington Wizards. "All you hear from the fans is, 'Don't lose to the Cardinals. Whatever happens, Big Blue Nation better not lose to Louisville.'"

For the most part, Kentucky fans have gotten their wish—the Wildcats are 18-11 since the annual game started in 1983-84 to go along with seven national titles and 15 Final Four appearances. Louisville has two titles and is making its ninth appearance in the national semifinals.

The histories of the programs highlight their differences in style and their efforts to keep up with each other.

Louisville's decision to build the \$238 million KFC Yum! Center downtown hastened Lexington's plans for a \$150 million renovation of 36-year-old Rupp Arena. And both schools built multimillion dollar practice facilities in the past few years.

Louisville signed its first black players in 1962 with a class that included Wade Houston, Eddie Whitehead and Sam

Smith with little fanfare and later inked greats like Unseld and Darrell Griffith.

Kentucky was famously slower to integrate.

Rupp's all-white team lost to Texas Western, which started five black players, in the 1966 NCAA finals popularized by the movie "Glory Road" and didn't break the color barrier until 1969 when Rupp signed Tom Payne of Louisville who spent a year in Lexington before entering the NBA draft.

When the dunk was reinstated in the college game for the 1976-77 season, Louisville and coach Denny Crum embraced attacking the rim, beginning with Griffith, who earned the moniker "Dr. Dunkenstein."

Crum won titles in 1980 and '86. His high-flying players at Freedom Hall were known as the Doctors of Dunk who helped popularize the high five and helped usher in a new age of college basketball, including a win in The Dream Game in 1983.

Kentucky's style bordered on a business-like approach under Rupp assistant Joe B. Hall. Hall's '78 squad was so thoroughly expected to win the national title that when they did, it's remembered as "The Season Without Celebration." Hall coached through 1985 before Eddie Sutton's unsuccessful run ended in NCAA violations.

It was Pitino who helped usher Kentucky back to the title path with three Final Four appearances and a championship in 1996.

That group, known as The Untouchables, featured nine NBA players and six first-round picks. Kentucky heads to New Orleans with a team loaded with talent whereas Louisville was a big surprise to get to the Final Four once again. It makes Saturday's game another historic showdown.

Former Kentucky forward Josh Harrellson summed it up: "I think everybody in the world is going to be watching."

Payton, Saints have decisions looming this week



NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Saints owner Tom Benson left the NFL meetings Wednesday and

headed back to New Orleans, where his team's top brass had major matters to discuss during what could be Sean Payton's last week of work in 2012.

Team spokesman Greg Bensel said no decisions had been made on an interim coach after a meeting Tuesday with Bill Parcells. Payton has made it clear he is hoping Parcells can help New Orleans move forward whether he wants to get back into coaching or not.

Payton considers Parcells his mentor, and has spoken with him several times since learning last week that the NFL intended to suspend him for all of the coming season—starting this Sunday—for his role in New Orleans' bounty program. Payton said most of those conversations concerned how Parcells might handle a similar situation, not whether he was interested in returning to the sideline in the Big Easy.

Yet when asked why Parcells, a finalist for the Hall of Fame this season who turns 71 in August, would make a good fit as interim coach, Payton had some definite ideas.

"He's a great teacher," Payton said Tuesday at the NFL owners meeting in Palm Beach. "Certainly I'm biased, having worked with him. But he's a Hall of Fame head coach. And I would also say there's some things probably set up in the framework of our program that would be exactly how he would have set those things up had he been the head coach (in New Orleans) in '06. So there's some carry-over that way."

The Saints' bounty system overshadowed much of the business discussed at the NFL owner's meetings.

"It's definitely necessary to mention it," said Ron Rivera, whose Carolina Panthers play the Saints twice a year in the NFC South. "The precedent has been set by the commissioner and they need to understand that and it is not to be broached again. Going forward, we won't have to go over these things again."

The Saints are still trying to figure out to regroup from the fallout.

It could be a few days before Saints, who are looking to make the playoffs for a fourth straight season, decide on an interim coach.

Bulls thrash Hawks on the road, 98-77



ATLANTA (AP)—Chicago's Luol Deng led a flurry of 3-pointers to help the NBA-leading Bulls blow out the Atlanta Hawks 98-77 on Wednesday for another road victory.

Deng was 5 of 8 from beyond the arc and the Bulls finished 9 of 16 to improve to their NBA-best record away from home to 21-6 and their overall mark to 41-11, even though Derrick Rose was missing for the eighth straight game with a shoulder injury. The Bulls haven't missed a beat, winning six times without their MVP.

Deng finished with 22 points and had plenty of help, with Carlos Boozer scoring 20.

Josh Smith led Atlanta with 19 points.

Knicks 108, Magic 86

In New York, the hosts climbed above .500 for the first time since mid-January by convincingly beating Orlando.

The Knicks scored 21 straight points in the third quarter to set up their eighth win in nine games.

Carmelo Anthony and Iman Shumpert each scored 25 points for New York, which moved 2 1/2 games ahead of Milwaukee for the eighth and final play-off spot in the Eastern Conference and pulled within 2 1/2 of Philadelphia and Boston for first

place in the Atlantic Division.

Jameer Nelson scored 17 points and J.J. Redick had 15 for the Magic, who had their three-game winning streak snapped.

Celtics 94, Jazz 82

In Boston, Kevin Garnett scored 23 points and added 10 rebounds to lead Boston to its fifth win in six games, downing Utah.

Rajon Rondo had 14 assists for the Celtics, who moved into a tie with Philadelphia atop the Atlantic Division.

Former Celtic Al Jefferson had 18 points and 12 rebounds for the Jazz.

Clippers 103, Suns 86

In Los Angeles, Blake Griffin threw down three dunks in a 1:40 span late in the fourth quarter to power Los Angeles beyond Phoenix.

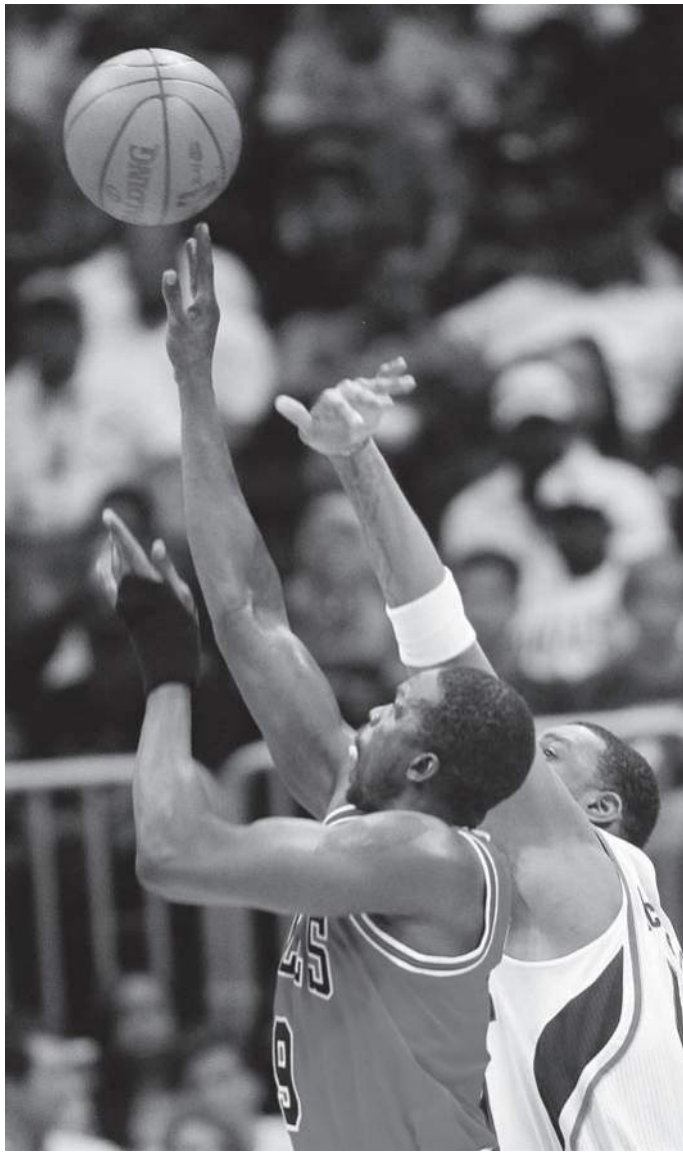
Griffin had 27 points and 14 rebounds while Chris Paul had 15 points and 15 assists to help the Clippers move two games behind the Lakers in the Pacific Division. They have won five straight at home.

Marcin Gortat led Phoenix with 23 points and seven rebounds.

Spurs 117, Kings 112

In Sacramento, San Antonio edged Sacramento to record a sixth straight win.

Manu Ginobili scored 20



Chicago Bulls small forward Luol Deng (9) shoots as Atlanta Hawks small forward Tracy McGrady (1) defends in the first half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, March 28, 2012, in Atlanta.

points and Kawhi Leonard had 19 for the Spurs, who were playing their fifth game in six nights but still shot 54 percent and outrebounded the Kings.

Isaiah Thomas scored a career-high 28 points and had 10 assists for Sacramento, which has lost four straight.

Nets 100, Pacers 84

In Newark, Deron Williams had 30 points and nine assists for lowly New Jersey, who finished with eight fit players but still beat Indiana.

Rookie MarShon Brooks added 17 points for the Nets, who started the game with only 10 players available before losing starting center Shelden Williams to an eye injury in the second quarter and backup center Jordan Williams with concussion in the third.

Paul George had 22 points for Indiana.

Raptors 105, Nuggets 96

In Toronto, Andrea Bargnani scored 26 points to lead Toronto to a win that ended a run of nine straight defeats by Denver.

Jose Calderon had 10 points and 10 assists for the Raptors.

Ty Lawson had 26 points and nine assists for Denver.

Pistons 87, Cavaliers 75

In Cleveland, Tayshaun Prince

matched a season high with 29 points as Detroit handed Cleveland its fifth straight loss.

Prince made four 3-pointers and added eight rebounds for the Pistons, while rookie Brandon Knight added 16 points for the Pistons.

Rookie Kyrie Irving had 20 points, nine rebounds and six assists for Cleveland.

Hornets 102, Warriors 87

In Oakland, Marco Belinelli had 22 points and six assists as New Orleans comfortably beat Golden State.

Jarrett Jack added 20 points and nine assists for the Hornets.

David Lee had 28 points, seven rebounds and five assists for the Warriors.

Timberwolves 88, Bobcats 83

In Charlotte, Kevin Love had 40 points and 19 rebounds in Minnesota's victory over Charlotte.

Love scored 14 points in the fourth quarter and the Timberwolves led the entire second half.

Luke Ridnour had a season-high 14 assists and added 15 points for Minnesota.

Corey Maggette had 22 points for the Bobcats, who lost their fifth straight and remained stuck on just seven wins from 48 games.

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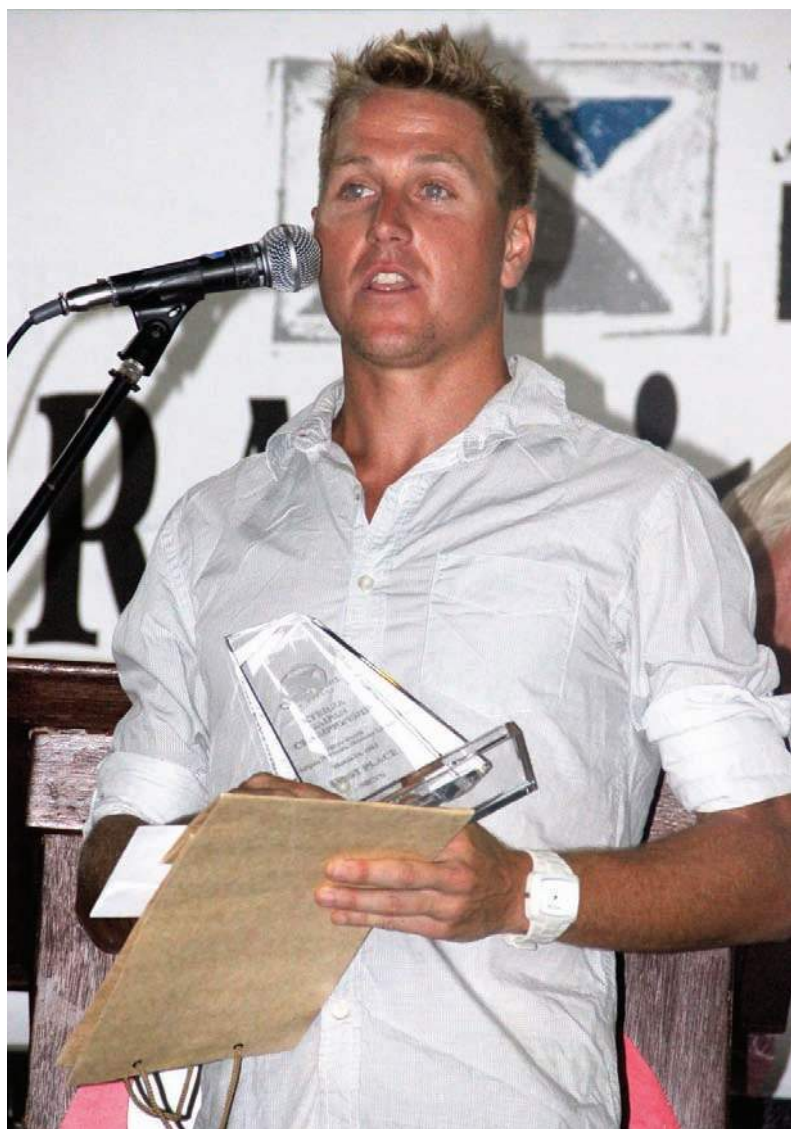
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2012 XTERRA Saipan Winners

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Australia's Ben Allen delivers a brief speech after accepting his first place prizes during the awards ceremony for the 2012 XTERRA Saipan Championship last Saturday night at the Pacific Islands Club.



From left, MVA's Frank Tudela, XTERRA Championship relay fourth finishers, Florence Antonio, Cesar Fortaleza, and Danny Garcia, and Taga, Inc. president Wolf Mojica pose for a group photo.



XTERRA Championship relay champions, from left, Yosh Gabaldon, Russ Quinn, and Victoria Chentsova pose in their funny eye glasses.



From left, United Kingdom's Jacqui Slack, Austria's Carina Wasle, and Saipan's Mieko Carey enjoy a light moment during the awards ceremony.



Age group top finishers in the XTERRA Championship course pose for a group photo.



Above, from left, age group Top 3 winners Lewie Tenorio, Japan's Nobuhiro Koi-zumi, and Guam's Mark Cruz smile for the camera.

Right, XTERRA Championship finisher and age group winner Dawn Hammermeister, center, poses with IT&E's Brad Ruszala, left, and Taga, Inc. president Wolf Mojica.



Above left, the Top 6 finishers in the men's pro division pose for a group photo.



Above, seven-time XTERRA Saipan champion Renata Bucher thanks her supporters and fellow triathletes during a brief speech.



From left, XTERRA Sport finishers Tim Goodwin, Derek Chambers, and Paul Plunkett pose for a group photo.



4TH SETTSU-SAIPAN FRIENDSHIP TOURNAMENT

MISO All-Stars, Settsu girls are champs



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

MISO's All-Star Boys, left, and the Settsu Lady Red Impulse pose for team photos after winning BANMI's 4th Settsu-Saipan Friendship Basketball Tournament Wednesday night at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

By **WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND**
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REPORTER

The Settsu Red Impulse Ladies and the Marianas Inter-scholastic Sports Organization Boys All-Stars were proclaimed champions of the 4th Annual Settsu-Saipan Friendship Basketball Tournament held at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Shirley's secures playoff seat

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Shirley's Coffee Shop survived Blue Haus' fourth quarter rally to pull off a 58-57 victory and win a playoff ticket in the 2nd Domino Lux International Fraternity Basketball Invitational Friendship League last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Shirley's finished the round-robin elimination with a 4-5 record and now joins Sunrises, (7-2), Blue Haus (6-2), Mobil (6-2), QQ Rent A Car (5-4), and Crystal Pure (4-4)

Shirley's Bruce Berline, center, is hammered by Blue Haus' Junar Guiab, right, and Brendon Talania during the fourth quarter of their game in the DLX/Miller Lite caging last Wednesday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Both defending champions fell this year as the MISO standouts defeated the Kagman High School, 90-58.

The Red Impulse Ladies, meanwhile, had their revenge on the Marianas High School Lady Dolphins, 69-38, in Wednesday's finals.

The MISO All-Stars stole the show in the boys division by sweeping the field.

The MISO All-Stars include Tinian High School's Marc Babauta, Darius Pettis, and Develle Maui, Saipan Southern High School's

See MISO on Page 34

to the next round.

Blue Haus, which was hoping to get the No. 1 seeding in the playoffs with a win in their penultimate game, failed to complete the come-from-behind victory when Joemary Tumaquip fumbled in the closing seconds of the match.

Blue Haus had the last possession in the remaining 5.3 seconds of the match after Joemary Tumaquip picked up a loose ball, following the second miss free throw of Shirley's J.R. Barrios.

With time ticking down, Tumaquip sprinted to their frontcourt, but was too fast for his own good and fumbled the ball. He was called for double dribble as time expired, giving Shirley's the much-needed win.

Shirley's got the breaks in the end after wasting a 13-point lead in the fourth and eight-point cushion in the last 1:01 of the match.

Bruce Berline, who was having his way inside the paint

See SHIRLEY'S on Page 34

Shirley's remains perfect in girls U15 league



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tan Holdings FC, left, and Shirley's FC players kick the ball during the second half of their game in Week 3 of the girls U15 spring league at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER



Shirley's Football Club kept its perfect record in the girls U15 division of the 2012 NMIFA Youth Spring League after edging Matansa FC, 2-1, in last Saturday's game

at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Alexa Vergara and Marielle Garigues scored one goal each for Shirley's to give their team a 3-0 record and hand Matansa its second straight loss.

Neither team found the back of the net in the first half before

See REMAINS on Page 34